

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 18th September, at Foochow, the wife of H. SHELLEY BRAND, of a son.
On the 2nd October, at "Woodbury," Garden Road, Kaulung, the wife of ETHELBERT FORBES SKETCHLY, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 21st September, at the British Episcopal Church, Foochow, by the Rev. Llewellyn Lloyd, WILLIAM HENRY WALLACE, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, son of the late ALEXANDER WALLACE, Esq., M.D., of Colchester, to LAURA, eldest daughter of THEODORE MOOREHEAD, Esq., of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Foochow.

On the 26th September, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Shanghai, before Consul-General Warren, FREDERICK JAMES STACH, of Park House, St. Kilda, Victoria, Australia, to JOSEPHINE HOMBERT, of Shanghai.

On the 1st October, at Saint John's Cathedral, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, M.A., GEORGE HARRY, only son of GEORGE DANN, Maidenhead, to GRACE MINNIE, youngest daughter of T. C. SWEET, Willesden Green, London.

DEATHS.

On the 21st September, at Tsingtao, Rechtsanwalt Dr. UDO EHRHARDT, aged 37 years.

On the 22nd September, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Captain C. H. McCASLIN, Pilot, aged 66 years.

On the 25th September, at Nagasaki, SIMEON FROST LAWRENCE, aged 64 years.

On the 28th September, at 9 p.m., at Dunottar, the Peak, ROBERT COOKE, Acting Manager, Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, aged 61 years.

On the 1st October, at 2 a.m., at the residence of Mr. Isidore Xavier, Macdonnell Road, ERNESTO FRANCISCO DO ROZARIO, aged 57 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 9th September arrived, per C.P.R. steamer *Empress of China* on the 1st October (22 days); the German mail of the 21st August arrived, per N.D.L. steamer *Sachsen*, on the 2nd October (42 days); and the American mail of the 4th September arrived per T.K.K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, on the 2nd October (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Count von Waldersee is reported to be somewhat seriously ill.

Sir Frank Athelstane Sweetenham, K.C.M.G., has been gazetted Governor of the Straits Settlements.

It is rumoured that the British, North Borneo Government intends greatly increasing the Customs dues there on the 1st January next.

360 Japanese troops arrived in Shanghai on the 26th ult. to relieve the Marines in garrison on the Yangtzeppoo Road. The latter are on their way back to Japan.

A Seoul despatch received in Tokyo on the 19th ult. stated that the French and Russian warships went up the Taidoko a few days ago and took in a large quantity of smokeless coal near Pingyang.

Prince Chun has left Europe for China, having embarked on the *Bayern* at Genoa at the beginning of the month. The projected tour has evidently been abandoned, as was reported before.

A token of French activity in China is to be seen in the opening of the cable between Amoy, Tonkin, and Annam. This is the tangible result of the manœuvre which gave rise to the recent Amoy scare.

According to the *Norddeutsche Zeitung*, Germany has placed the astronomical instruments looted by her troops at Peking at China's disposal, but China has renounced possession, as the difficulties of re-erecting them are too great.

A grave situation is reported from the Yangtze. Rebellion is threatened on account of the floods and the peculation by the officials of the relief funds. Troops are being raised in Kiangsu, Anhwei, and Hupeh to defend the threatened districts.

A Manila telegram of the 30th ult. reports the surprise of an United States garrison in Southern Samar, P.I., by a party of 400 bolomen. The garrison consisting of 72 men of the 9th U.S. Infantry was rushed, only thirteen men, with eleven wounded, getting away. The rest were killed or captured, including three officers.

In British North Borneo, the adherents of Mat Salleh (the gentleman who died so frequently) are reported to have attacked and killed a Government servant near Tenom. They escaped and have entrenched themselves strongly, awaiting the advance of Government troops.

An official despatch from Wuchang last week stated that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has received permission from the Empress Dowager to meet her at Kaifeng. H. E. will therefore leave Wuchang for Honan some time during the beginning of November next, remaining at the new capital until after the celebration of the Empress Dowager's sixty-seventh birthday anniversary.

Saturday, the 28th ult., was the anniversary of the birthday of Their Most Faithful Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal. The Consul-General, Senhor Conselheiro Romano, held an "At Home" at his residence, "Duart," Arbuthnot Road, from noon to 1 o'clock, which was numerously attended by all the foreign consuls, the press and members of the Portuguese community of Hongkong. The members of the Club Lusitano celebrated the occasion by a banquet, as reported elsewhere.

The *Universal Gazette* states that the Peace Plenipotentiary Li Hung-chang received a telegram recently from the Chinese Minister at London containing an assurance from the British Foreign Office to the effect that the Tientsin-Peking railway, which has been under the British charge since last year, will be returned to the Chinese Government as soon as the whole of the foreign allies have been withdrawn from Peking, and that the Chinese Government must understand that it is not the intention of England to cause China any trouble in insisting on the control of this railway.

A Wuchang despatch to Shanghai reports that to prevent any pretence on the part of foreign concessionaries of the Lu-Han Railway sending foreign troops to act as railway guards along the line now being constructed within Hupeh province, the high authorities of Wuchang have sent instructions to the Brigadier-General commanding a force near Hankow to detail several companies of his troops to protect the workmen and materials along the line and to continue adding men to act as railway guards as the building of the line progressed. Some three battalions or about 1,500 well-armed men are to be utilised in this way for the present in Hupeh province, commencing from Hankow; and it is also reported that the high authorities of Honan province, through which the Lu-Han Railway is also to pass, have received secret instructions from Hsian to detail a somewhat large force, or say, 2,500 men, to act in the same capacity and so forestall any movement on the part of the French to send "railway guards" into Honan from Chihli. A report emanating from a reliable source states that there is much anxiety and excitement amongst the Yangtze Valley high officials, as well as those of Shantung and Honan, as to what will be the nature of the German officials' reply to Governor Yuan Shi-kai's demand for the evacuation of Chinese territory by German troops, for upon the result of this will depend in a great measure the future action of mandarinism, aggressive or subservient, so far, at least, as inland railways are concerned.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR ON HONGKONG'S POSITION.

(Daily Press, 28th September.)

The speech of His Excellency the Governor when laying the Estimates before the Legislative Council on Thursday demonstrated at once the strength and the weakness of the position in which this Colony now is. On the one hand, at the end of last year there was a balance of assets over liabilities of more than a million dollars, beside the value of silver at the Mint. It is anticipated moreover that the surplus will be increased to nearly one and a half million dollars by the estimated balance of revenue over expenditure in the current year. The present financial position of the Colony therefore may be described, as Sir HENRY BLAKE said, as satisfactory. In five years the revenue has increased by no less than 61 per cent., and though the expenditure has risen by the large amount of 56½ per cent. the balance is in our favour. Shipping figures reached their maximum on record in 1900. Hongkong, too, has escaped the ill effects of the convulsions which disturbed North China, and the relations between the Colony and Canton have never been more cordial. This is the bright side of the picture; there is unfortunately another side. A violent epidemic has again raged both on the Island and on the mainland, and the medical and sanitary officials were taxed beyond their strength. Sanitary matters have reached a climax, and the long delayed attempt to set our house in order has been absolutely forced upon us. As will have been seen, H.E. the Governor confirmed the report that Mr. OSBERT CHADWICK has been appointed as sanitary expert to enquire into the state of the Colony and that a medical man will also be sent out to consult with the local medical authorities. Malaria continues its ravages, and a heavy task has had to be undertaken to destroy the breeding-places of the malarial mosquito. The New Territory is proving to be a very unremunerative acquisition, for the expenses continue extremely heavy, whereas the anticipated revenue is hardly in existence as yet. Sir HENRY BLAKE promises that when the country begins to develop the expenses will be amply repaid, but it may be asked whether this pleasing event is drawing close at hand and whether the Government might not easily have begun drawing revenue from the provisional occupiers of the ground long before it did. The Land Court, we are quite ready to believe, is doing excellent work; but was not the *modus operandi* adopted when the new land was taken over contrary to the true principles of economy? Every department of the Government service, we are told, shows an increase on its establishment, owing to increases of pay and additions to staff. The Public Works Department, the chief spending department of the Colony, which in 1896 took \$85,694, in 1901 will take \$138,701. Yet the staff is admitted officially to be too weak to carry out its duties, and a large number of the works under its charge are, with little or no blame to those in charge of them, in a condition which would disgrace a far smaller and poorer Colony. At last some attention is to be paid to the staff and working of the Department, two engineers are to be added to it, and a Commission is to be appointed to enquire into its position. The Post Office, residents will be glad to hear, is to be made as far as possible worthy of the Colony. None too soon, will be the verdict. Complaints have been made constantly for years, but hitherto with little apparent effect.

Now that the local Government has become convinced of the uselessness of any further resistance to the public demand for reform, it is well to see what are the measures indicated in H.E. the Governor's speech as about to be taken. In the first place, two responsible experts are to come out to Hongkong at the end of this year to examine and report upon our sanitary condition. His Excellency says: "It is not improbable that very large sums will have to be expended in the near future in the sanitary improvement of the City—sums that will absorb our balance and probably involve increased taxation. Happily the taxation of the Colony is comparatively light, and in a matter of such moment I feel that I can depend upon you to supply the necessary funds." The matter of increased taxation was not, of course, forgotten either by those who drew up the recent Petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies or by those who signed it. All residents who have the welfare of Hongkong at heart will cheerfully consent to the expenditure of public money, to which they contribute their quota, on public ends of the highest importance. Only the merest self-interest would shrink from this. In this connection we wish just to allude to one point of some delicacy. It seems an ungracious task to speak a word against contributing handsomely to so praiseworthy a scheme as the commemoration of the late Queen VICTORIA by the erection of a memorial in London. Nevertheless, the opinion has already been freely expressed, and it is held by a very large number, that this is a matter more for private subscription—Hongkong has already raised nearly \$78,000—for a public vote from the Colony's revenues, and that a fitter object for our public money would be to make a great and healthy city of this place which bear VICTORIA'S name. The Hongkong Government has for long been remarkable for its penurious economy with respect to some of the most urgent public works. The most fitting mark of appreciation of our late Queen would be to mark the change from this short-sighted and ultimately extravagant policy by coupling with the commemoration of the deceased Sovereign some great local public work.

To resume, beside the appointment from home of a special sanitary commission, it is trusted that another step will be possible next year which will tend to an amelioration of local conditions in time of epidemic. This is the permission for the transfer, under proper precautions, of Chinese suffering from plague who may desire to proceed to Canton for treatment and the consequent relief from the anxiety which has in the past caused so many natives to fly from the Colony during the plague season. H.E. the Governor and the bulk of the Colony are at one on this point and have striven together to attain their object, but the Home Government has so far been obdurate. We are glad to learn from Sir HENRY BLAKE that there are hopes of an arrangement being come to. Beside plague, malaria is to be fought vigorously, and, as we have seen, expense is not to be spared. Another urgent point is the strengthening of the Public Works Department, and it is sincerely to be hoped that something will come of the special commission of enquiry which H.E. the Governor announces his intention of appointing. The increase of the Medical Department is also welcome news. The addition of a second Officer of Health for the port is a much needed step. Such measures as these involve no small extra cost, but it will certainly not be grudged by any public-spirited colonists,

provided that the appointed persons set about their enquiries in a thoroughly conscientious way. The best use of public money is to devote it to the welfare of the public, not merely to hoard up from it a balance of imposing proportions, which has far too much been the course pursued here in the past.

(Daily Press, 5th October.)

H.E. the Governor's letter covering the Blue-book forwarded to the Colonial Office was laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting on Thursday. Sir HENRY BLAKE was able to point to the sound financial position of this Colony and an increase of business corresponding with the expanding trade of the East. The letter continues with a general review of the past year, touching briefly on the main features affecting Hongkong. With regard to the outbreak in Kwangtung, H.E. gives an explanation, which he received "from fairly well informed sources," that it was possibly started with a view of inducing the allied Powers to secure peace in the South by a promise to consider the question of internal reform when the time arrived for the imposition of terms of peace upon the Imperial Government. He also points out the strong anti-dynastic feeling displayed by the rebels and the feeling manifested against northerners—a feeling reciprocated by the northerners against the Cantonese. Coming back to more strictly colonial affairs, after mentioning the coming dock extensions, which will make Hongkong docking facilities equal to those of any port in the East, and the large increase in steam-launch building, the Governor discusses the 1900 plague epidemic. He brings out the peculiar difficulties of our situation when he says:—"In considering this annual recurrence of plague, the situation of Hongkong renders it peculiarly difficult to deal with the introduction of disease from without, for relief gradually obtained in other places by the death of the susceptible can hardly be looked for here with a perennial influx of susceptible coolies from the surrounding plague-infected provinces. A few hours bring these people to Hongkong and nothing short of a ten days' detention of from two to three thousand persons who daily enter Hongkong would insure freedom from the introduction of plague by these visitors, while even if all are healthy there must be among them a proportion of susceptibles to feed the fuel on the appearance of plague." The discussion of plague leads naturally to that of overcrowding. H.E. says, certainly without exaggeration, that the problem of reducing the surface population is "one of the most important questions of the future." The abatement of this evil, he goes on to say, will probably cost some millions of dollars, owing to the value of house property in Victoria; but Hongkong taxation is light compared with that of other colonies, and "sooner or later the question of the abatement of surface overcrowding must be vigorously dealt with." This is very true, and we do not see that any one holding this view can regard with anything but regret the action of the Sanitary Board on Thursday in rejecting Dr. CLARK'S proposal to prevent the erection of buildings to a height exceeding the specified one-and-a-half times the width of the street they front.

H.E. the Governor proceeds next to the question of the New Territory, the financial accounts of which, he says, afford no reliable basis for an estimate of its ultimate value. After the completion of the land-survey and the settlement of claims, H.E. expects to see a rapid development of that portion of

the district surrounding the Harbour. "Beyond affording protection and bringing home to the people the fairness and justice of the British system of government nothing can be done in the New Territory until the land claims have been settled." Sugar-cultivation in the Territory is thought capable of great improvement, sericulture will probably be tried on a large scale, and Sir HENRY BLAKE sees no reason why, with the further propagation of succulent grasses already growing in the Colony, the hills north of the Kowloon range and the island of Lantau should not support a sufficient number of cattle to render Hongkong independent of the supplies now procured from the West and North Rivers. That the Governor's anticipations will be verified will be the hope of all. The Government's methods have certainly been slow, so that it may be trusted they will be sure.

One more point we wish to call attention to in the letter before us, and that concerns the steamers trading between Hongkong and the West River ports. Sir HENRY BLAKE thus sums up the abortive negotiations:—"The Companies interested asked 'no more than that they should have the liberty to carry passengers to and from any place on the river, undertaking to confine the carriage of cargo and parcels to the ports and stages already agreed upon, and being prepared, if necessary, to carry a Customs Official on board and to conform to every local regulation as to inspection, &c.' This proposal, which I made personally to the Viceroy Li Hung-chang when on his way to the North, to the Tsung-li Yamen, and to Sir ROBERT HART, was accepted by all three. It was referred to a Committee in Canton appointed by the Acting Viceroy, and, for some reason that I have not discovered, it was recommended by them that the proposal should be rejected." H.E. hopes, however, that the proposal may yet be accepted. It is indeed to be trusted that this will be one of the details to be considered by the Powers and China in settling the question of commercial facilities consequent on the recent conclusion of peace.

Such are the main points of interest in the Governor's letter to the Colonial Secretary. It will be noted that the question of sanitation is not dealt with. Are we to look for this in a year's time? It is true that the agitation for reform belongs to 1901, but nevertheless the evils existed in 1900, and we should have preferred to see some official comment on the matter.

THE CENSUS.

(Daily Press, 1st October.)

The student of comparative statistics will revel luxuriously in the Report and Returns of the latest decennial census of the Colony, as published in the *Government Gazette* of 28th September. The census of the four hundred and odd villages comprised in the New Territory, mainland and islands, was taken by the Police authorities; and its ascertained population of 102,254 shows how closely accurate was the estimate arrived at by the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G., in his Report to the Colonial Office, as Special Commissioner, dated 8th October, 1898, although that calculation was based on nothing more reliable than enquiries on the spot, combined with personal inspection. The difficulties met with this year in the outlying districts and among the boating sections, chiefly ascribable to nothing worse than simple ignorance, were admirably tackled and overcome. The census of the native harbour

population was, on this occasion, taken by day; and, owing to the precautions taken, as Mr. P. P. J. WODEHOUSE the Census Officer remarks, in all probability gives the most accurate census of the boating population that has yet been taken. Amid increases on all sides, it will be a surprise to most people to learn that the Portuguese community is dwindling: it was slightly over 300 smaller in number this year than in 1897. No reason is alleged, although abnormal rents and the greatly enhanced cost of living are the two chief contributory factors. Alone among the more considerable sections of our cosmopolitan community, the Portuguese show an excess of females over males: the proportion works out to 35 males for 43 females. In a total of 1,956—*vide* Table V, although paragraph 18 of the Report says 1,948—1,097 (the Report gives 1,095), or 56 per cent., were born in Hongkong; while 750, or 38 per cent., were born in Macao. Yet very few of them, it seems, claim British nationality. The European and American divisions show large increases since 1897 and 1891; but, as certain important sections comprised in them, for some unstated reason, were not included in the last decennial census, accurate comparative deductions cannot be made. The British resident civilian population has nearly doubled in the last decade, having risen from 1,448 in 1891, to 2,708 this year. The Americans in our midst, in the same interval, have more than doubled in number; but this, in great measure, is doubtless due to the proximity of their first colonial acquisition. The proportion of adult females to males in the British section is steadily rising, and may be looked upon as a highly gratifying sign of the times: the place is beginning to be regarded more as a home. Of the purely non-Chinese races, other than Europeans, Americans and Portuguese, Indians, Japanese, and Philippine Islanders show big additions: Malays alone give evidence of a decrease. Eurasians are difficult to number. The word, here much more so than in the not distant Straits Settlements, is looked at askance, and is regarded as a term of contempt and reproach. Hence large numbers of Eurasians who dress, live, and are brought up as Chinese, have been returned as Chinese. Under paragraph 25, either the years or the numbers referring to the Saiyingpun District are not in strict order. Of the land population of the four biggest Chinese villages on the Island, that of Shaukiwan shows a substantial increase of 1,721, or 23 per cent. more than in 1897: the extensive works inaugurated by Messrs. BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE at Quarry Bay mostly account for this. Aberdeen, with 2,787, is practically stagnant. Stanley, with 805, has lost 239 since 1897. The inland hamlet of Pokfulam has gone up from 384 to 610 in the same period. The considerable floating population of the first three named places, in each instance, shows heavy increases. British Kowloon, quite exclusive of the New Territory, as might be expected, shows up well. Its population in 20 years has more than quadrupled. This phenomenal growth may be set down to the activity implied by the existence of the Naval Depot there, of the Briquette Factory, of the Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's extensive establishment, of the newly opened Cement Factory at Hok-ün, and of the Dock Company's extensive workshops, to make no mention of the numerous other hives of minor industries that have sprung into busy being on the peninsula opposite during the two last decades. The number of European and American children on the Tsimshatsui promontory, below the age of

15, is 58: which is a significantly eloquent testimony, were one indeed needed, of the want of a purely European School in that part of the Colony! The Colony's floating population amounted to 40,100, an increase above that of 1897 of well over 26 per cent., although this may be partly attributable to the greater efficiency of the enumerators this year. One of the most noticeable features in this part of the Report is the fact that there are 200 launches in the harbour—a number probably exceeded in no other port in the world. It is satisfactory to note that the enumerators and other officers engaged in the by no means easy task of distributing and collecting schedules, met with neither opposition nor obstruction. The Report, with twenty-two carefully compiled tables, is sufficiently exhaustive; and, several trifling discrepancies in figures apart, due to changes in the clerical staff in the middle of the work, as well as to the departure of the Census Officer himself, Mr. P. P. J. WODEHOUSE, before the laborious tabulations had been completed—both of which facts are mentioned by the Hon. A. W. BREWIN, the Registrar-General, in his covering letter—the entire series of documents is of liveliest and timeliest interest. The total population resident in the Colony, on Sunday, 20th January last, Civil, Naval and Military, was 297,212. If to this be added the people on the leased land known as the New Territory, we get a grand total of 399,566—say, in round numbers, 400,000 souls.

JAPAN'S PROGRESS.

(Daily Press, 30th September.)

A visit to Japan two years after the abolition of extra-territoriality opens up many topics of interest. Rightly or wrongly, the concession of unlimited jurisdiction over the persons and properties of their nationals to Japanese judges trained in dissimilar social and legal schools of thought was looked upon as a grave experiment by the majority of the European Powers; and serious complications were, not unnaturally, anticipated by the residents, who were to be handed over without appeal to the new and scarce fledged courts. It is characteristic of the thoroughness with which the Japanese Government and people have entered on the new civilisation, that in the main these apprehensions have proved groundless, and that no substantial grievance has arisen, and but few international differences have needed adjustment. Certain well founded complaints were indeed raised of the manner in which alleged assaults on Japanese coolies by Europeans had been converted into crimes by inexperienced and possibly prejudiced native judges, but the feelings excited by these miscarriages of justice have for the most part had time to cool, and they seem to have led to a better mutual understanding than if they had never occurred: the foreigner has learnt that he is far more likely to gain his ends by polite consideration than by a hectoring assumption of superiority, while the native, finding no utility in self-assertion, and content to accept the position, has returned to his natural politeness and amiability. Amongst the Japanese themselves the change is equally marked; the excessive formality engendered by centuries of dependence of one class on another, and the bowings and prostrations that used to attend the chance meeting even of equals are now things of the past; and without losing their native politeness, the Japanese in their intercourse with one another have learnt to be courteous without a trace of the former suspicion of servility. With all,

the native Japanese has not lost his natural picturesqueness, which even in the large towns, under the depressing influence of frock-coats and patent leather shoes, still finds an opportunity of displaying itself.

Perhaps the most striking feature in the Japanese system, to a stranger at least, is the ubiquity of the policeman; and it might naturally be supposed that the country is police-ridden. Such, however, on more intimate knowledge proves hardly to be the case. The policeman in fact in Japan serves many other purposes than keeping the peace. He is indeed the collector of statistics in general, an occupation dearly treasured at all times by the Japanese. One of the most noticeable customs to the early voyagers was the system of reporting every particular adopted by the Japanese officials who came on board, always attended by their secretaries and notaries; and at the present day this role has passed to the policeman, who is bound for the edification of his superiors to recall every incident, however trivial, that occurs within his knowledge from day to day. It is little to be wondered at then that according to the most recent account—that for 1898—the number of police in the empire should have amounted to no less than 34,000, or one to every 1,360 of the population. Notwithstanding the ubiquity of the policeman he does not appear to interfere in any objectionable way with the private concerns of the people, who, except that they now and then sigh for the old days when taxation was almost absent, are allowed to carry on business with the slightest of interference and are not meddled with in their opinions, provided they do not contravene the laws. The policeman on the contrary seems to be generally looked up to with respect, and certainly inspires no ill will. Beyond requiring the name, address and nationality of every foreign traveller at each stopping place, the policeman is now very little in evidence with the tourist, who may besides always look to him for advice or assistance should he ever require it.

How carefully statistics of all sorts are by these means collected in Japan is illustrated by the annual *Résumé Statistique* which has for the last fifteen years been published by the Japanese Government and which gives the most intimate details of the vital statistics of the Empire. The area then of Japan and its dependencies was in 1898 7,430 sq. mi.—say 45,000 sq. miles—and the population 46½ millions, or an average of 286 per square mile. Of the larger islands Shikok had a density of 425 per square mile, while the main island of Nippon only supported 375; this is of course mainly due to the large tracts in the latter island rising to an altitude of over 3,000 feet, where profitable cultivation is out of the question, and the land is either prairie or forest, and practically uninhabited. Of the island proper the population, in 1889 forty millions, had in 1898 grown to forty-three and three quarters, an increase of upwards of nine per cent. Of this population the most minute particulars are given; there are 3,845 nobles or of noble family, 1,666,000 samurai, and 33½ millions of the ordinary people. The family throughout averages 5.35 individuals, but the usual phenomenon of the proportions of the sexes is reversed, the males exceeding the females by about 2½ per cent. The birth rate has been gradually increasing from 29.3 per thousand in 1893 to 31.3 in 1898, the number of deaths on the other hand decreasing from 22.8 to 20.4 in the same period; nearly 8½ per cent. of the births were still-born. Divorce is easily obtained in Japan, on an average about one fourth of the

marriages being dissolved by mutual consent or otherwise; as the lady enjoys much consideration in Japan, and more frequently than not is the "business man" of the family, it may be assumed that facility results in no hardship, and judging from the general happiness of Japanese homes is really conducive to a good understanding. Of Japanese abroad known and officially registered there were in 1898 some 99,000, besides some 2,000 in Australia and Java, of whom accurate account could not be kept; on the other hand there were 11,700 foreigners resident in Japan, of whom, however, more than half were Chinese; of the rest 1,954 English, and 1,282 Americans formed the most numerous elements. Of the aboriginal Ainos in the island of Yezo it is interesting to note an increase from a little over 15,000 in 1891, to 17,000 in 1898, and that is confirmed by a record of 549 births as against 448 deaths in the latter year.

Statistics of Agriculture and Industry, of Commerce, foreign and native. Posts and Telegraphs, of Education and Religions, of Public Health and Police, and finally of Finance, fill up this wonderful volume, which contains within a compass of 150 pages a *résumé* of the entire life of this most interesting of nations. To some of the latter topics, amongst others the growth and distribution of Foreign Trade, which has made marked progress during the last ten years, we propose to return in an early issue.

FRESH MISSIONARY TROUBLES.

(Daily Press, 3rd October.)

The outward signs of the restoration of peace after last year's troubles are not yet complete when, from several parts of the Empire, we are already getting intelligence of the outbreak of missionary troubles. In Northern Kwangtung rebels, reported to belong to the Triad Society, have burnt down a German mission-station. From Mid-China during the past few weeks, news of dissensions between the Roman and other converts has reached Hongkong by way of Shanghai. It is plain that the lessons of last year, which were hoped to be going to teach so much, have not yet been learnt. With regard to the Piang-thong disturbances, of which we gave all available details yesterday, the assailants of the Mission are said to be members of the Triad Society. In the Triad rising in the Waichow neighbourhood last year, it will be remembered that the rebels were conspicuous for their abstention from outrages against foreigners, and indeed their professions were most friendly. From this it might be considered improbable that the Triads have any connection with the attack on the Basel Mission. But so wide are the ramifications of the Society throughout South China that it includes in its ranks the greatest variety of people. A correspondent writing to us last year on behalf of the Triad rebels in Kwangtung, protested against any general condemnation of the Society, on the ground that so large a body must contain many black sheep, by whom it is unfair to judge the other members. As was stated by the Rev. Mr. EBERT to a representative of this paper on Tuesday, the leaders of the rebels are outlaws, who are as safe in rebellion as otherwise. The extent of the forces at their command is not ascertained, but it is estimated at three or four thousand. If this is so, the 1,600 Chinese troops sent against them from Chowchowfu and Waichow can hardly be adequate if the rebels are armed as well as they were last year. However, details are not sufficiently ample to make speculation

profitable. The native authorities appear to be acting with promptitude, as the case demands, and doubtless if foreign gunboats can be of assistance they will be ready when required.

In many ways the subject of dissensions between Chinese converts to Christianity belonging to different churches and sects is of more importance than such an affair as that at Piang-thong. As long as there continue to be disputes, often ending in fights, between Romanist and non-Romanist proselytes so long will the political side of mission work in China overshadow the educational. Unless the various schools of religious thought who devote some of their energy to the attempt to convert the Chinese can discover a *modus vivendi* and loyally abide by it, there is little hope of peace in the districts of the Empire which are accessible to the missionary. The state of affairs which makes Christianity only another cause of internal disturbance in China reflects no credit on the teachers. Apparently it is too much to hope that an arrangement will be come to between the heads of the various churches and sects, though why this should be so we cannot see. The matter is one well worth the most careful consideration of the bishops and leading men of societies engaged in Chinese mission-work; indeed it is more than this, it is a matter which absolutely demands attention. Last year's persecutions produced a semblance of unity among the proselytisers and converts of various denominations. Now once again there appears to be a spirit of rivalry, more bitter than commercial competition, which apparently no influence succeeds in restraining. This promises to be one of the most disquieting elements in the future of China.

FRENCH ACTIVITY IN SOUTH CHINA.

(Daily Press, 4th October.)

We reported last week that the French Government was purchasing one of the Macao hotels for use as a hospital. We now learn that the agreement for the transfer of the hotel in question—the well known "Boa Vista"—has been settled and that M. C. HARDOUIN, French Consul at Canton, has purchased the hotel property on behalf of the Governor-General of Indo-China, who intends to use it as a sanitarium for the navy and Indo-Chinese officials. We believe that the price at which the transaction took place was \$75,000. As is well-known, the French Government has long desired a sanitarium in this part of the world and seems to have been unable to find a suitable place in Indo-China. The acquisition of the Boa Vista property may be looked on as a piece of enterprise, such as would emanate from the fertile brain of M. DOUMER, and fits in well with his schemes of building up French influence in Southern China. As we have said before, we believe that two other governments had also a chance of acquiring the property, but did not rise to the occasion. The purchase was not effected without some difficulty, for when publicity was recently given to the transaction the Portuguese authorities at Macao declined to ratify the transfer, and the matter was referred to Lisbon. Apart from the loss to local residents, who will be deprived of one of their favourite Saturday to Monday resorts, the position of Hongkong is not much affected by the transfer. But it may be looked on as a token of French energy in this neighbourhood, well in keeping with their recent activity in Canton, of which reports have been constantly coming

in—the latest being that the new French Post Office has generously spread a number of receiving boxes over the native city, which, however, will probably have to be taken down at the instigation of the Imperial Chinese Post. Sanction for the carrying out of the transfer scheme has, we understand, been received from Paris, and the Governor-General of Indo-China will be officially invited to visit Macao for the inauguration ceremony.

In the matter of cable-laying the French are showing considerable enterprise in South China, and we recently pointed out the new Amoy cable is now advertising for custom, which it is not likely to secure so long as its rates are two-thirds higher than the Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration, as at present. The French are also arranging to lay a cable from Kwanchauwan to some island in the vicinity of Macao, which will connect with the Portuguese colony and go from thence to Canton.

POSSIBILITIES OF INDO-CHINA.

(Daily Press, 5th October.)

A well-informed correspondent in Indo-China writes to us on the subject of the possibility of bringing the French Colony into the ordinary mail-steamer route by the creation of a deep-water harbour at a convenient point on the Annam coast. As his remarks are interesting, we need not apologise for quoting them. He says:—"The want of a deep-water harbour for Indo-China, not too far from the mail-steamer route, has long been a subject of complaint in the Colony. Haiphong by no means fulfils the requirements, and there is a feeling in favour of Tourane. At present goods taken *via* Haiphong and by river suffer greatly from slowness of transport. If it were decided to create a harbour at Tourane railways would have to be run to the leading towns in Tonkin, Annam, and Cochinchina. Several leading commercial men, excellent judges of the situation, are strongly in favour of the Tourane scheme. This port is not very distant from the mail routes, and steamers running from Singapore to Hongkong and from Saigon to Shanghai could well stop at Tourane, they think, without incurring excessive loss of time. At all events the growth of trade would soon indemnify them. Indo-China would then be served not only by French steamship lines, but also by English, German, and others. Tourane should in the circumstances be made a free port, to the great advantage of the Colony. Moreover, many more Europeans would be induced to come out to Indo-China, another great gain. Annam and Tonkin contain great unexploited sources of wealth. If we French are lacking in initiative, perhaps foreigners would not be too timorous to tempt fortune."

If the suggested deep-water harbour were to be constructed, our correspondent goes on to say, railways between Tourane and Hanoi, Haiphong, and Saigon would first of all be necessary. The 200,000,000 francs devoted by M. Doumer to the Haiphong-Lao-kay and Lao-kay-Yunnanfu lines would be much better employed in such a work as this. The French are seeking the chimerical wealth of Yunnan, neglecting the more important treasures already waiting for them in Annam and Tonkin. It will be remembered that we recently published the opinion of a French officer of much experience in Indo-China and its neighbourhood, who held exactly the same views. Our correspondent concludes:—"Had M. Doumer consulted the Colony's commercial men

"he would not have plunged Indo-China into debt as he is about to do. France has now been established in Indo-China for nearly twenty years. She is reaping some benefits, it is true. But the methods adopted have been bad and the results are entirely inadequate in view of the possibilities." It is customary to look on the French as poor colonists, though in certain outward matters they improve on British methods, as residents in Hongkong who have any experience of French ports in the Far East will admit. Indo-China has been so far no exception to the general run of French colonial possessions. Many of the colonists, however, are convinced that it is not through lack of possibilities that this is so, and our correspondent's remarks quoted above may be taken as a fair example of the arguments used by the more sober of them. Whether there is or is not a chance of breaking the steamship journeys at some point on the Annam coast, the scheme at least merits attention.

OCCUPATIONS IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 2nd October.)

To the Census of the Colony, the more important parts of which we noticed yesterday, two tables are attached, giving the occupations of the non-Chinese and Chinese portions of the Colony respectively. From these some interesting details can be gathered. In the non-Chinese community far the largest number belonged to the class of clerk; no less than 770 so returned themselves. 560 belonged to the vaguer category of student, and 558 were in Government service. Merchants came next with 309, watchmen fifth with 202, and those connected with the mercantile marine sixth with 175. Engineers numbered 140, and domestic servants 109. Under the head of "Religion" there were 91 names, while the only other class numbering between 50 and 100 was that of brokers. Of 79 persons the occupations were undefined, and 789 did not state their occupations. Among the smaller classes were:—Overseers 85, bankers 71, teachers 38, managers 36, law and shop-keepers 30 each. Less ordinary occupations were tattooers 21, and fakirs, jockeys, and waiters one each. Among the Chinese, no less than 49,806 males were engaged in personal, household, and sanitary service, of whom 43,410 were personal servants and 3,562 cooks. As general labourers 23,785 were described. The building trade employed 7,287, wood, cane, and matting 6,335, metals and precious stones 5,041, transport and storage 4,102, and textiles, etc., 3,527 persons. Commerce was returned as the occupation of 16,925 in all, no less than 15,783 being unspecified. The provision of food, drink, etc., employed 2,725, agriculture 1,202, and learned and artistic professions 1,164, including 410 under "medicine," 232 under "education," 143 under "pictorial art and sculpture," and 128 under "religion." The above figures all refer to male Chinese only. Amongst the Chinese women, apart from 40,607 under "indefinite and disreputable means of subsistence," textiles, fabrics and dress claimed 9,327, of whom 9,220 were seamstresses, 6,666 were classed under "personal, household and sanitary service," 6,066 being servants, 261 wet nurses, and 254 cooks. There were 1,157 female general labourers, the next largest figure falling to agriculture, with 860. Learned and artistic professions among Chinese women had 98 adherents, 53 being teachers, 21 doctors, and nine preachers. Under the title of "independent of labour" we find beggars,

property-owners, blind, and prisoners, to the number of 31 in all. Chinese males of the same class are put at 488. Altogether the record is one of interest and gives a certain insight into the wide extent and variety of business in this Colony.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 27th September, 6.30 p.m.
A Hsianfu despatch reports that the arrival of the Court at Kainfengfu is to take place in November.

The Empress Dowager, according to the despatch, will disinherit the heir apparent Pu Chuu on account of his dissipated life.

Russia has offered 5,000,000 roubles for three Chinese cruisers and four torpedo-boat destroyers. China will probably accept.

SHANGHAI, 29th September, 5.20 p.m.
The Nanchang mandarins report that there is a rising of "Vegetarians" on the Chekiang border. They have besieged Chiangshan. Appeals for aid have been sent to Hangchow.

SHANGHAI, 1st October, 6.59 p.m.
A rebellion is expected in the Yangtze region on account of the floods and the peculation by the officials with regard to the relief funds subscribed. The situation is very grave. The local officials of Kiangsu, Anhwei, and Hupeh provinces have been ordered to raise troops to defend the menaced districts.

SHANGHAI, 4th October, 6.56 p.m.
A Hsianfu despatch reports that the Russophil officials are urging the Empress Dowager to concede the Chinese Amur region to Russia on the condition that she guarantees China from other foreign aggression for a period of fifty years.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 3rd inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C. (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. C. McI. MESSER (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Hon. Wei A Yuk.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Councils).

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 10), and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

BLUE-BOOK FOR 1900.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table a despatch from H.E. the Governor covering the Blue-book for 1900.

COCHRANE STREET HOUSE COLLAPSE—

DEPOSITIONS AT SECOND ENQUIRY.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, pursuant to notice, asked the following question—Will the Honourable the Attorney-General lay upon

the table a copy of the depositions taken by the Magistrate sitting as Coroner in the second enquiry into the deaths of 43 persons which occurred in the collapsed houses Nos. 32 and 34, Cochrane Street, on the night of the 14th August ultimo, a copy of the Crown Solicitor's opening remarks and closing speech, and a copy of the Magistrate's decisions or finding in respect of the first as well as the second enquiry held in connection with that disaster?

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Sir, I beg to lay upon the table the papers asked for.

PEACE AND QUIET OF THE INHABITANTS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend An Ordinance for the better securing the Peace and Quiet of the Inhabitants of the Town of Victoria and its vicinity during the night time (No. 17 of 1884).

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend An Ordinance entitled the Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1885 (No. 8 of 1885). He said—The reasons for this Bill are fully stated in the objects and reasons attached to the Bill. In committee on the Bill I shall have one amendment to move. In the last line of clause 5, after the word "second," I shall move that the words "or any subsequent" be inserted, so as to prevent any doubt as to the penalty for any subsequent offence or for the second offence.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council thereafter went into committee on the Bill, when the amendment proposed by the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL was accepted.

On the Council resuming, the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the Council re-commit the Bill, as he had another amendment to move.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL then moved that in the last line of clause 2 the word "them" should be substituted for "him."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the amendment was agreed to.

The Council thereafter resumed. The third reading of the Bill was not moved.

NEW TERRITORIES LAND COURT.

The Acting Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1900 (No. 18 of 1900). He said—Hon. members will see the objects and reasons stated at the end of the Bill. I would also propose to move, in committee on the Bill, certain amendments which are shown in the Memorandum circulated to hon. members. There are also stated in that Memorandum the objects and reasons for moving the amendments. I have also a small amendment to move in clause 4 of the Bill—that the word "Government" before the word "Gazette" be deleted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded the motion for the second reading, which was agreed to.

The Council thereafter went into committee on the Bill, when the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, moved the following amendments:—

1. That in clause 2 of the Bill—
 - (i.) The words "or where in the opinion of the Registrar it is desirable to obtain further information as to the ownership of any lot then" be inserted between the words "claim" and "it";
 - (ii.) The word "such" before the word "person" be omitted; and
 - (iii.) The word "any" be inserted before the words "such information."
2. That in clause 3 of the Bill, in sub-section (1.) of section 7A, the words "and if he is required so to do to mark out clearly with boundary marks to the satisfaction of the Court the limits of the land" be inserted after the word "land."
3. That in clause 4 of the Bill, sixth line, the word "Government" before the word "Gazette" be deleted.

The amendments were agreed to. On the Council resuming the third reading of the Bill was not moved.

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Public Health Ordinance, 1901 (No. 13 of 1901).

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council thereafter went into committee on the Bill, and on resuming, there being no alterations, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

FINE ART WORKS COPYRIGHT.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance relating to Copyright in Works of the Fine Arts, and for repressing the Commission of Fraud in the Production and Sale of such Works. He said—The reasons for this Bill are stated in the objects and reasons attached. A complaint has been made by a photographer in this Colony that his photographs are being extensively reproduced by others without his permission, and it seems accordingly desirable that the provisions of the English Copyright Act of 1862 relating to Copyright in Works of Fine Art should be introduced into this Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council thereafter went into committee on the Bill, and on resuming, there being no alterations, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE.

The Hon. J. J. BELL Irving moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 15 of 1887, and to remove any doubts as to the validity of any matters done under it. He said—The object of this Bill is to rectify an omission which has arisen in connection with Ordinance 15 of 1887. By the terms of that Ordinance it was enacted that that Ordinance should not come into operation unless and until the Officer Administering the Government notified by Proclamation that it was Her Majesty's pleasure not to disallow the same, and thereafter it should come into operation upon such day as the Officer Administering the Government should notify by the same or by any other Proclamation. By some mistake that Proclamation was not issued.

Hon. C. P. CHATER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council thereafter went into Committee on the Bill, and on resuming, there being no alterations, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Council then adjourned till Thursday, 10th inst.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 3rd inst. in the Board Room. There were present the President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer), Dr. F. W. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Hon. W. Chatham (Acting Director of Public Works), Mr. F. J. Badesley (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Mr. Lau Chu Pak, and Mr. J. Bryan (Sanitary Surveyor), who took the place of Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary to the Board), now recovering from an attack of malarial fever.

THE MINUTES.

The PRESIDENT having put the minutes to the meeting for approval.

Mr. CHATHAM said—There is one small thing that I think might be amended. Under the heading "Rat-catchers" it says there was no seconder—I think it should read that the motion was not seconded. It is no doubt a matter of composition.

The omission was rectified.

GENERAL CLEANSING OF CHINESE HOUSES.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the general cleansing of Chinese houses. This matter has already been dealt with.

The PRESIDENT—These papers have been circulated, and I move that the Board recommend the Government to authorise the Registrar-General to issue notices to the occupants of premises other than tenement houses, calling upon them to thoroughly cleanse their premises twice yearly, once at Chinese New Year and afterwards during the fifth Chinese moon.

Mr. CHATHAM—I second that.

The motion was carried.

IMPROVED TYPE OF CHINESE HOUSE.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to an improved type of Chinese house. This correspondence has been published in the *Government Gazette*, and has also been already dealt with in these columns.

INFANT MORTALITY OF CALCUTTA AND HONGKONG.

A comparison of the Mahomedan infant mortality of Calcutta and the Chinese infant mortality of Hongkong shows that in Calcutta the rate is 748.6 per 1,000, and in Hongkong 9.8 per 1,000. The death-rate in Hongkong amongst infants is therefore 18 per cent. higher than that in Calcutta.

The following minutes were attached:—

Hon. A. W. Brewin:—"Apparently the figures for Calcutta are exceptional. So are those for Hongkong."

Dr. Clark:—"The figures for last year are apparently as follows: Singapore, 386 per 1,000; Calcutta (Mahomedan) 748 per 1,000; Hongkong (Chinese) 928 per 1,000."

The President:—"The death-rate in Hongkong amongst infants is from the returns given 18 per cent. higher than that in Calcutta. The fact that Chinese neglect their female children is one factor in the causation of this high infantile mortality."

The papers were laid on the table.

DRAFT BILL TO RESTRICT HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS.

A draft Bill to restrict the height of buildings, and for other purposes, came before the Board for consideration.

This draft Bill is founded upon the Report dated 27th August, 1901, of the Public Works Committee of the Legislative Council, and it was in connection with the following passage that the Bill was referred to the Sanitary Board:—"Provided that the provisions of this Section shall not apply to any building the height of which, at the date of the passing of this Ordinance, exceeds one-and-a-half times the width of the street upon which it fronts, nor to any building erected in substitution for any such building."

Under date 21st September, 1901, the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Acting Attorney-General, minuted:—"I beg leave to submit for the consideration of His Excellency a draft Bill, which is founded upon the recommendations contained in Sub-division II of the Report of the Public Works Committee of the Council, which is dated the 27th August, 1901. At the same time, however, I feel it necessary to point out that the effect of the sentence of the Report which reads—'This Section shall not apply, however, to the re-erection of buildings which have already been erected in excess of the height specified,' will practically prevent any improvement in the present surface-crowding in the City of Victoria. In fact, if the provision as to one-and-a-half times the width of the street is not to apply to the re-erection of buildings, the only improvement effected by clause 2 of this Bill upon the provisions of Section 6 of Ordinance 34 of 1899 is that clause 2 of this Bill prevents the raising of existing houses to over one-and-a-half times the width of the street. I cannot help thinking that the above sentence which I have quoted, and which purports to have arisen in connection with certain resolutions of the Sanitary Board, must have been based upon some misconception as to the purport of those resolutions, and I would beg leave, therefore, to respectfully suggest that this draft Bill, together with the Report of the Public Works Committee, be now referred to the Sanitary Board for consideration."

In a minute also attached, Dr. Clark gave a long but by no means exhaustive list of 93 streets and lanes in the City in which the buildings now exceed the limit in height of one-and-a-half times the width of the street, and went on to say:—"It will suffice to show that any such legislation as that proposed in the attached Bill will barely touch the fringe of this very serious question of 'surface-crowding,' and that it is essential for the welfare of this Colony that the limitation of the height of buildings should extend to all buildings which are hereafter erected or re-erected. It is now more than three years since the Board unanimously agreed that 'no domestic building to be erected in future shall exceed in height one-and-a-half

times the width of the street upon which such building fronts, and there can be no question that such an enactment is still of paramount importance to the sanitary welfare of this Colony."

Dr. CLARK said—The members of the Board will have gathered from the minute which I have written, and which has been circulated, that personally I do not think the Board should support this draft Bill. It proposes to prevent any further increase in the height of existing buildings which may already exceed one-and-a-half times the width of the street on which they front, but it also contains a proviso to the effect that any house which is re-built may be re-erected to its present height. That is to say, that if we have now a four or five-storied house fronting on a narrow street (and I have shown in my minute that there are many such) that that house can again be erected to the same height, although the street still remains extremely narrow, and the dangers of overcrowding will thus be perpetuated for another 20 to 30 years (which is the ordinary life of a Chinese house in this Colony). In other words, the Bill practically proposes to continue the *status quo*. We have at the present moment an enormous amount of surface-crowding in this City of Victoria, and this Bill will do nothing whatever to mitigate it. It may possibly prevent its becoming much worse, but it will do absolutely nothing to remedy it. There are two cities in the East which have the unenviable notoriety of being the centres of plague, and those two cities are Hongkong and Bombay. Until this last week I with other members of the community thought the surface crowding in Bombay was in excess of that in Hongkong, while it has been generally stated that the surface crowding in Bombay was, moreover, in excess of any other city in the world. During the last week, however, an Indian journal, published in Bombay, has been sent to me, which calls attention to the fact that Bombay may now relinquish the "bad eminence" which she has hitherto held of having the most crowded areas in the world, for it is pointed out that whereas no acre in Bombay contains more than 760 persons, there are two districts in Hongkong which contain over 800. It is not a question moreover of one or two acres only which contain this enormous population, but of no less than 50 acres in the centre of this City of Victoria, each of which contains over 800 persons. The limit of safety per acre is generally looked upon as about 200 persons, so we must regard these districts as containing four times as many people as they should do. This Bill will not abate that surface-crowding one jot. I understand it is intended simply to prevent the running up of additional stories to existing heights. If that is so, all that is necessary is to pass one clause to the effect that "no additional story shall be added to any existing house which shall raise the height of that house to a greater extent than one-and-a-half times the width of the street on which it fronts." What the Board want and have asked for repeatedly is an enactment to the effect that "no house which is rebuilt shall exceed in height one-and-a-half times the width of the street on which it fronts." I don't think there is any necessity for us to go into the question of compensation; it is one which does not concern the Board. I don't think, however, that we should as a Board approve of this draft Bill which has been sent down to us for our opinion, but that we should repeat our recommendations, which have been made periodically since 9th June, 1898, when we first raised this question, and brought it most strongly before the Government. I beg to move: "That the Government be informed that in the opinion of this Board it is essential to the sanitary welfare of the Colony that the proviso contained in Section 2 of the draft Bill be deleted." I have another resolution dealing with the question of balconies. Perhaps you may wish to let that stand over until you decide the first question.

The PRESIDENT—Yes, I think it would be better. In seconding the resolution proposed by Dr. Clark, I would impress upon the members of this Board the necessity of considering this matter from a public health point of view. There is no doubt at all that, as Dr. Clark has shown, this town is the most overcrowded

city in the world; at any rate the most overcrowded city in the East, to our knowledge. That being so, one measure to prevent the overcrowding will be the opposition to this Bill in the way suggested. If it is passed in the way it is now sent up for us to consider, it practically means that this proviso to Sec. 2 will not be deleted or, in other words, houses can be rebuilt to exactly the same height as those already on the site. I think the Board ought to insist, as a Board, on houses not being allowed to be erected to a height of more than one-and-a-half times the width of the street on which they front.

Mr. CHATHAM—I don't agree, sir, with the proposal that has been moved by Dr. Clark and seconded by yourself. Dr. Clark, in his remarks, stated that the Bill simply continued the *status quo*. That is not so. At present there are many houses in the Colony which do not exceed in height one-and-a-half times the width of the street, but all these houses, under the existing law, can be raised, in some cases, to a height of about three times the width of the street on which they front. That is what is aimed at by this measure. It is regarded as a purely temporary measure which is to come immediately into force, so that the prevention of this great increase of overcrowding that must result may be arrested. Everywhere at present old houses are being pulled down, and new ones of much greater height are being erected. In some cases two additional floors are contained in these new houses, and this Bill will effectually put a stop to everything of that nature. I will therefore propose "That the Board request the Government to pass this Ordinance at its earliest possible convenience," and so render the raising of these buildings impossible.

The PRESIDENT—You propose that as an amendment?

Mr. CHATHAM—Yes.

Dr. CLARK explained that he meant the *status quo* as regarded overcrowding and not as regarded legislation. The Bill as brought in would not diminish the overcrowding. That was matter which concerned the Board.

Mr. BREWIN expressed his willingness to second the amendment, and said he did not see why they should fight say of the Ordinance because it did not deal with other questions.

The PRESIDENT—Practically this amendment means we are to be content with a small concession, hoping that we may get a larger one later on.

Mr. CHATHAM—It is a very big concession.

The PRESIDENT—Not from a public health point of view. If Dr. Clark's motion is carried it will be a great improvement on the present Bill.

Mr. CHATHAM—I foresee many objections being raised to any Bill embodying the provisions that we all agree are desirable. I foresee objections to its passing, and meanwhile this continual raising of buildings is going on all over the city, and no one has power to stop it. If this is passed we can stop it, and make any recommendations we like to the Government. At present everywhere the state of the City is growing worse, and it is to stop this that I am anxious that the measure should be passed.

Dr. CLARK—May I ask the Acting Director of Public Works to make his amendment so that it refers to Clause 2 only?

Mr. CHATHAM—I will agree to that.

It being decided, however, that it would be better for Dr. Clark to move both his proposals and to take Mr. Chatham's amendment as combatting them both, Dr. CLARK said—With regard to the question of balconies, referred to in clause 4, it was only two or three months ago that the Sanitary Board sent up a recommendation to the Government that no balcony should be allowed in future to be erected in a street of a less width than thirty feet. This Bill allows balconies in a street of 25 feet in width, and I think that the Board is practically bound to call the attention of the Government to this matter, and to inform them that they are still of the same opinion that balconies should only be allowed in streets of 30 feet in width. When you remember that balconies are 4ft. 9in. to 5ft. wide, and you have them on both sides of your streets, they will considerably decrease the amount of air and ventilation in the streets. I will move "That with reference to clause 4 of the Bill the

Government be informed that the Board is still of the opinion that no balcony should be erected in future in any street less than 30 feet in width."

The PRESIDENT—I will second that.

Mr. CHATHAM—With regard to that matter, under the existing laws balconies can be erected in streets of 20 feet in width, so that the proposed new law effects an improvement in that matter also. It gives an increase of five feet in the width of the street and that is a very considerable step forward. In order to get the whole thing through I recommend that here also we should request the Government to pass the new Ordinance as it stands.

The PRESIDENT—Surely it would be a greater improvement to have it 30 feet instead of 25 feet?

Mr. CHATHAM—With regard to that, sir, the balcony is a very mild obstruction in any street as compared with the verandah, and it is distinctly beneficial to the house. There is no question of that, because it permits all the windows to be opened to the floor so as to enable people to pass out. I think it may intercept a little light and air, yet the benefits which accrue from it compensate for that defect.

Mr. Chatham was then asked to put his previous amendment in writing, and the PRESIDENT read it as follows: "That the Government be asked to pass the Bill in its present form at the earliest possible date."

It was then put to the meeting and carried by four votes to two, the President and the Medical Officer of Health voting against it.

Dr. CLARK—I think I am entitled to ask that my minute may be forwarded to the Government so that they may have some idea of what streets will be affected by this Bill.

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

EMPLOYMENT OF ADDITIONAL RAT-CATCHERS. Papers notifying the approval by the Government of the employment of six additional rat-catchers and one foreman were laid on the table.

THE FLUSHING OF THE SEWERS.

The reply from Government relative to the flushing of the sewers and storm-water drains, and correspondence thereon, was laid on the table. The reply was as follows:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
11th September, 1901.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 3rd of last June, I am directed to inform you that there are at present 42 flushing tanks working in the sewage system, and that the question as to the advisability of increasing the number will be laid before the Sanitary Engineer who is being engaged by the Secretary of State at the request of H.E. the Governor to examine into and report upon the drainage system.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY.

Sanitary Board.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL BYE-LAWS.

Papers were laid on the table relative to the approval by the Legislative Council of additional bye-laws relating to the prevention of epidemic, endemic or contagious disease.

DISINFECTION OF INFECTED PREMISES.

Dr. CLARK, pursuant to notice, moved that Bye-law 8, under the heading "Disinfection of Infected Premises" contained in Schedule B. of Ordinance 13 of 1901, be repealed.

Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

SUCCESSOR TO COLONIAL VETERINARY SURGEON.

The PRESIDENT, pursuant to notice, moved that the Board recommend the Government to obtain, at as early a date as possible, a successor to the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, whose service expires on the 2nd proximo.

Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

A NUISANCE.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to the Gough Street latrine.

This latrine is situated underneath the playground of Belilios Public School, the officials of which have lately complained of unpleasant smells. In view of this, Dr. Clark minuted a recommendation that the excavation under the playground be considerably extended in area

and then converted into a public bath-house, with accommodation for about forty baths.

Hon. A. W. Brewin minuted:—"If the nuisance caused by the gases is at times unbearable, that caused by the smoke will no doubt be very great."

Dr. CLARK moved according to the terms of his minute, and was seconded by the PRESIDENT.

The motion was carried. Mr. CHATHAM did not vote.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Reports of the analyses of the public water supplies for the month of September were laid on the table. The Government Analyst, Mr. F. Browne, found that the water was of excellent quality.

WITHDRAWAL OF QUARANTINE REGULATIONS. Letters were laid on the table from H. B. M. Consuls at Saigon and Batavia relative to the withdrawal of quarantine regulations against arrivals from Hongkong at these ports.

MEASURES TO PREVENT CONTAGIOUS DISEASE.

In a minute to the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police asking him if he could spare a sufficient number of Indian constables to prevent the conveyance of furniture, etc., from one district undergoing disinfection to another. Dr. Clark stated his intention of asking the Board to deal first with all that part of the City east of Garden Road and Murray Road, and at the same time, if possible, all that part of the city west of Eastern Street.

Dr. Clark further minuted:—"I think that the Board should now request the authority of the Government to incur the necessary expenditure involved in this cleansing and disinfection. I also recommend that eight sappers be asked for from the military authorities, with two European police to supervise them, and that work should commence as soon as possible both at East Point and at West Point."

Mr. Lau Chu Pak minuted:—"Can't this cleansing and disinfection be carried out quietly. The stationing of police in the streets will unnecessarily frighten the people."

The PRESIDENT said this matter of cleansing was a difficult matter to accomplish and we would wish to do it with as little discomfort as possible to the inhabitants, and although he quite agreed with Mr. Lau Chu Pak, it was necessary for the welfare of the Colony that some such steps should be taken now that plague was non-epidemic. As to the good that would be done by this general cleansing, to anyone who visited the various Chinese tenement houses and saw the filthy state they were in it must be evident that the benefit would be very great indeed. It will not do to be too optimistic regarding the effect of this general cleansing, seeing how difficult it is to thoroughly accomplish this dealing with a race like the Chinese. With reference to the police cordon mentioned by Mr. Lau Chu Pak, it was not a cordon in the way he supposed, but only a few policemen stationed down Garden Road to prevent the Chinese moving their goods and chattels from the east end of the City to the west end. A sub-committee of the Board had considered the matter, and had presented a report giving instructions as to how the cleansing should be carried on. The report had been circulated, and it now remained for the Board to adopt the instructions, if they were approved.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—I have not seen this report. Anyway, the present staff of the Board is so small that it could not cope with the work, if it has to be done within a certain time. I do not wish to put any obstacles in the way, but I would suggest that the Board should be lenient in its measures.

Dr. CLARK moved that the Board request the authority of the Government to incur the necessary expenditure involved in the work. He continued—I do not know whether it is necessary to take it separately, but I also had it in my mind to move that the Board appoint a small committee to arrange the necessary details in connection with the work. Perhaps Mr. Lau Chu Pak might be willing to serve on that committee.

Mr. BADELEY seconded.

Mr. BREWIN—We don't ask the Government for any specific sum?

Dr. CLARK—No, we can't do that.

Mr. BREWIN—Have you estimated what it is likely to be?

Dr. CLARK—No; that will be left to the committee.

The PRESIDENT—I think we are quite justified in leaving the matter to the committee Dr. Clark has spoken of. I would suggest the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, the Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. Lau Chu Pak as a committee.

This was agreed to.

Dr. CLARK—I beg to move that the Board define that part of the City which lies west of Eastern Street, and also that part east of Garden Road, as the districts to be first dealt with by this committee under these bye-laws.

Mr. BADELEY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

NO PLAGUE IN TAINAN.

A letter, dated 21st September, 1901, from H. B. M. Consul at Tainan, to the effect that there had been no reported case of bubonic plague in that district since 1st September, was laid on the table.

Dr. CLARK moved that the Board recommend the Governor in Council to withdraw the restrictions against arrivals from Formosa.

The PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried.

PREVENTION OF SPITTING.

Correspondence was laid on the table relative to the prevention of spitting by the Chinese, especially in public places. To achieve this end, or at least to do something towards lessening the very real evil involved, 1,000 copies of the following notice have been printed in Chinese and issued:—"As without a doubt consumption is spread by means of the sputum, people are advised not to spit, especially in public places where men mostly congregate."

The PRESIDENT explained that his object in bringing this matter before the Government was to make clear the extent to which phthisis really does exist in this Colony. The annual death-rate for phthisis in this Colony is 3.1 per 1,000 living, against 1.40 per 1,000 in England, another proof of the overcrowded and insanitary way in which the Chinese live. It was a well-known fact that consumption was spread by indiscriminate spitting: the sputum from a consumptive patient is loaded with tubercle bacilli, and when the sputum dries the bacilli are disseminated in the air and are the main cause of the spread of pulmonary tuberculosis, and it was to a certain extent to minimise the danger that he recommended the notices to be printed.

MORTALITY IN MACAO.

The mortality returns for Macao for the weeks ended September 15th and 22nd show that in the former week the deaths numbered 49 and in the latter 55.

MORTALITY STATISTICS FOR THE COLONY.

The mortality statistics for the Colony for the week ended 21st September show a total death-rate of 23.6 per 1,000, against 27.8 in the previous week and 24.6 in the corresponding week of last year.

This was all the business.

TRIAD REBELS IN KWANGTUNG.

NARROW ESCAPES OF MISSIONARIES.

As we were enabled to report on the 1st inst., through the courtesy of the Rev. G. Gussmann, of the German Basel Mission, Bonham Road, the Mission's station at Piang-thong, near Hsing-ning City, in the north-east portion of the Kwangtung Province, has been burned down by Triad rebels. Details were then wanting, but it was known that the missionaries at that particular station were safe, and had arrived at Kiaying-chow.

On the 1st inst., on enquiring at the Basel Mission for further information, our representative was introduced to the Rev. Mr. Ebert, of the Piang-thong Mission station, who, with his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Maier, and Mrs. Schultz, whose husband is stationed at Kiaying-chow, arrived in the Colony on the 1st inst. in the steamer *Haiching* from Swatow, which they reached from Kiaying-chow after escaping from Piang-thong by river. Mr. Ebert's story of this latest phase of Triad Society outlawry is interesting.

For months past, long before affairs reached

the present crisis, it was known that trouble was brewing, and the direction from which it was expected to come was very shrewdly guessed at. Of late, however, the tension had become so acute that the Basel missionaries at Piang-thong, Mr. Ebert and Mr. Maier, determined to take their wives to a place of safety, as warning had been received from friendly Chinese that the members of the Sam-hap-wei (Triad Society) were now in open revolt, and would probably make Piang-thong and the mission station their first objective.

A boat was procured, and the two missionaries with their wives set a course down the Hinne River for the neighbouring station at Kiaying-chow. Having got the ladies to a place of safety, it was the intention of Mr. Ebert and Mr. Maier to return on horseback to Piang-thong, and with this object they had previously sent their horses on to Kiaying-chow. When the little party of fugitives reached the latter place they learnt to their dismay from Mr. Schultz, the missionary in charge there, that the rebels had attacked and burnt the mission station at Piang-thong, and that it was consequently altogether impossible to return to that place with safety. Mr. Ebert's party determined to go on to Swatow, and, taking with them Mrs. Schultz, whose husband elected to stay in Kiaying-chow, not deeming it necessary to leave the station just then, they proceeded on their way, still following the river, and ultimately reached Swatow in safety, where, after informing the German Consul of the state of affairs, they embarked in the steamer *Haiching* for Hongkong, which, as already stated, they reached on Tuesday morning. None of the little party is the worse for the trying experience.

So far as is at present known, all the members of the Basel Mission stations in the Kwangtung Province are safe. Mr. Kutter, of the Lo-kong station, is known to have escaped on horseback. This station is eighty Chinese leagues north of Piang-thong, and is the most exposed of all. Grave fears were at first entertained regarding Mr. Kutter's safety, and as time went on without bringing tidings of him, these fears became almost a certainty that disaster had overtaken him. Now it is known that Mr. Kutter, who had to flee for his life, is safe. The rising had assumed general proportions throughout the Kwangtung Province, and when the news reached Lo-kong it was almost too late for Mr. Kutter to escape. Beside himself, the only other resident at the mission station was a Chinese convert. Taking a horse each, the two mounted and galloped from the place. They turned their faces towards the Piang-thong mission station, of the disaster to which they had probably not learnt—an ignorance of matters that came near to costing them dear. On the way they encountered a band of the rebels, and drew rein to keep the fact of their presence concealed. The rebels, however, were so engrossed in the distribution of their spoil that the missionary and his companion did not find it difficult to make a detour and to continue unobserved on their way. They reached Piang-thong some time after Mr. Ebert and his party had gone, and found the station burnt to the ground. After learning from native sources that the members of the mission had escaped without harm to Kiaying-chow, Mr. Kutter and the convert continued their flight to Sun-pee, on the other side of the Hinnen River, where the population generally is quiet and not ill-disposed to foreigners. The last news of Mr. Kutter was that he and his companion had left Sun-pee and were on the way to Chung-lok, in which district are four of the Basel Mission stations, and it is confidently expected that they reached one of these stations safely.

After leaving Piang-thong, the rebels attacked Hinnen City, situated a little way off, but were repulsed by the inhabitants. Their loss is variously estimated at from ten to one hundred killed and as many captured, but Mr. Ebert says the most reliable report gives the rebels' casualties as ten killed and four captured. The losses, if any, sustained by the inhabitants of the city are not stated. After this defeat the rebels were supposed to have separated and concealed themselves in the hills, but their forces were quickly reorganised and a move was made against Shak-ma, a town in the line of march.

It is not known, so far as we were able to ascertain, whether they attacked this place, nor, if they did so, with what result. It is now feared that the rebels are marching on Kiaying-chow, where Mr. Schultz's station lies, and where the fortifications are none too strong. The population were in a panic at the news of the rebels' approach, but the native militia were being got in readiness to repulse them.

Accounts as to the numerical strength of the rebels are, as was only to be expected, varied and misleading. Some native estimates place it at hundreds of thousands, but Mr. Ebert does not think it at present exceeds three or four thousand. "Several thousand," he replied in answer to our representative's query on the point. Mr. Ebert also states that the rebels are known to be members of the Triad Society, and their leaders are men who have been outlawed, men whose only safety lies in their association with rebels.

In addition to the defensive force at Kiaying-chow, nine hundred Chinese soldiers were sent from Chowchow-fu to intercept the rebels, whilst from Waichow-fu, on the other side of the Hinnen River from Chowchow-fu, seven hundred troops have been despatched with the same object.

It is at present unknown what the actual dimensions of this Triad rising are, but it is hoped that the prompt measures taken by the Chinese authorities at the places above mentioned will result in its being immediately quelled.—*Daily Press*, 2nd October.

The German Basel Mission here is in receipt of no further news regarding the Triad rising in the Kwangtung Province. They hope soon to hear that Mr. Kutter, who with a Chinese convert escaped on horseback from the mission station at Lo-kong, has arrived safely at one of the four stations in Chung-lok.—*Daily Press*, 3rd October.

CENSUS RETURNS FOR THE COLONY.

From the report of Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Census Officer, on the recent census of the Colony we make the following extracts:—

The decennial census of the Colony was taken on the night of Sunday, the 20th January.

Certain preliminary returns were published on the 18th February. The greater part of the totals had already been checked, and the figures were, therefore, fairly accurate. The principal error was one of 4,900 in the Chinese floating population, which had been calculated from the totals furnished by the Water Police. Through some misunderstanding, the Gaol returns were not sent in until too late for insertion.

The European and American resident civil population numbers 5,808 as compared with 5,532 in 1897, and 4,555 in 1891. These figures include Portuguese. The numbers of the latter community tend to decrease, and it is now composed of 1,948 persons as compared with 2,263 in 1897 and 2,089 in 1891.

The rest of the European and American population has increased by 591 since 1897 and by 1,394 since 1891. An accurate comparison cannot, however, be made with 1891 as the figures for that year do not include the European Police, some "temporary residents," or the inmates of the Gaol.

The British resident civil population numbers 2,708 as compared with 2,213 in 1897 and 1,448 in 1891. The larger number of military families, due to the strengthening of the British troops in garrison, the Naval Yard Extension works and those of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire at Quarry Bay, and other large undertakings are factors in this increase.

The Americans have increased from 93 in 1891 to 198, the Germans from 208 to 337, and the French from 89 to 103. The Spanish number 126 as compared with 88 in 1891. The cosmopolitan nature of the community can be realised from the fact that there is hardly a nationality on the face of the globe which is not represented.

The Portuguese population has again, for the reasons stated by Mr. Brewin in his census report for 1897, been separated in most of the tables from the rest of the Europeans and Americans. It is mainly recruited from Macao, and only ten members of the community were born in Portugal. 1,095 or more than one-half

were born in Hongkong, 746 in Macao and 60 in various ports in China. Several members of this community described themselves as being of Asiatic race. The great majority of the Portuguese have returned themselves as Portuguese subjects. British nationality is claimed by a very few.

Of the British population of 3,007 (inclusive of those on board the shipping in the harbour) 1,777 claim to be English, 655 Scotch, and 251 Irish. 2,053 were born in the British Isles, 574 in Hongkong, 140 in Australia, and 74 in India. The percentage of adult females to males is 55, taking all those over 15 years of age as adults. The percentage in 1891 was 48 and in 1897, 48.

The Non-Chinese races, other than European and American, number 2,607 as compared with 2,592 in 1897 and 1,439 in 1891. No separate return was made of the various races in 1891, so the present figures can only be compared with those of 1897. The Indians number 1,453, the increase over 1897 being 60, 345, or 24 per cent. of this number are females. There are 484 Japanese as compared with 335 in 1897, and 266 Philippine Islanders as compared with 116 in the last census. Of the remainder the Malays number only 66, there being 141 fewer than in 1897. The 2,139 Indian camp followers whom I have considered it advisable to include with the garrison. They are attached to that portion of the China Field Force which is at present in garrison in this Colony.

The number of Eurasians was ascertained to be 267. This is 5 less than in 1897. It is a very difficult matter to obtain the true figures for this portion of the population. The large majority of Eurasians in this Colony dress in Chinese clothes, have been brought up and live in Chinese fashion, and would certainly return themselves as Chinese. Those who have called themselves Eurasians in this census probably only represent the small minority who have been brought up as Europeans. Of the 3,589 Eurasians in the Singapore census of 1891, the large majority were probably the children of Tamil, Malay or Indian mothers, and not of Chinese ones. They would most likely not have any objection to declaring themselves Eurasians. The Chinese consider the term one of reproach. If enumerators were instructed to find out the numbers of Eurasians themselves, it is obvious that this would inevitably lead to abuses, and would present great opportunities for the exercise of private spite.

The total Chinese land population of the Colony is 234,443, including 1,180 on board the foreign shipping in harbour, as compared with 201,528 in 1897 and with 178,960 in 1891. This represents an increase over the latter year of 55,483, or nearly 31 per cent. The increase over 1897 is 32,915. The number of male adults (those over 15 years of age) is 158,930 and of females 42,737, the percentage of the latter to the former being 26.89. In 1891, the figures were 113,241 and 33,523 respectively, the percentage of females to males being 29.92. The number of Chinese families in Victoria has been ascertained to be 25,123, the figures in 1897 and 1891 being 21,740 and 14,120 respectively. This shows an increase over 1897 of 3,383, and over 1891 of 11,003. As the increase in the Chinese population of the city since 1897 is only 14,765, the number of families cannot be considered entirely a real one. It is not probable that there has been any considerable increase in family life among the Chinese since 1897.

Of the Chinese land population 227,615 returned themselves as natives of the province of Kwong Tung, 179,296 of this number belonging to the Kwong Chau Prefecture. Of the various districts in the latter Tung Kun comes first with 28,844 persons. The natives of Pun U number 28,587, of Nam Hoi 27,221, of San On 27,412, and of San Ui 21,542. There were 1,088 natives of the province of Fokien, 151 of Kong So, and 125 of Chekiang. 2,354 persons, of whom more than half were women, claimed Hongkong as their home. The native place of 120 persons was not stated.

Of the 181,918 inhabitants of the City of Victoria, 6,862 are Europeans, Americans, and other Non-Chinese, while 175,056 are Chinese.

There is a remarkable increase in the population of Kennedy Town and Shek Tong Tsui, which now numbers 11,032 as compared with 4,282 in 1897 and 3,581 in 1891. If this increase is a real one, which there is apparently no reason

to doubt, it is difficult to account for, although there are reasons which would account for a considerable portion of it. There is a slight decrease in the Saiyingpun District, the numbers in 1901, 1897, and 1891, being 44,722, 45,570, and 34,559 respectively. The Taipingshan District shows a small increase of 1,892 over 1897. In 1891 there was a population in this quarter of 31,302, the decrease since that year being due to the destruction of the Chinese houses on the Taipingshan Resumption Area. The Chungwan District continues to grow, and the population has increased from 36,196 in 1891 to 51,243 in the present year. This represents an increase of 41½ per cent. The number of inhabitants of the Wansai and Hwan Districts is 23,487. The number in 1891 was 16,944.

The total increase in the number of Chinese inhabitants of the city is thus 14,783 over 1897, and 36,287 over 1891. Out of the increase of 14,783 over 1897, 14,242 were males and only 541 females.

The European and American residents at the Peak number 412 as compared with 381 in 1897 and 213 in 1891. These figures do not include the European Police, of whom, however, there was only one living there on this occasion. The number of Chinese was 1,786, of whom some were workmen employed on new buildings. The increase over 1897 is 195. The European and American children below the age of 15 numbered 47.

The number of Europeans and Americans residing in the Hongkong villages was 167. In this total are included the crews of a steamer at Aberdeen and of one at Shauiwan. In 1897 the number was 125; in 1891 it was not stated.

The Chinese population of Shauiwan numbered 9,159, which shows an increase of 1,721 over 1897, and of 1,867 over 1891.

805 Chinese reside in the village of Stanley, and 2,787 in Aberdeen. The population of the latter village remains, therefore, practically the same as in 1897, while that of the former one has decreased by 239 since 1897, and by 77 since 1891.

The village of Pokfulam now contains 610 Chinese inhabitants as compared with 324 in 1897 and 269 in 1891.

The European and American population (including Portuguese) in British Kowloon numbers 668 as compared with 377 in 1897 and 183 in 1891. This remarkable increase is not confined to the Non-Chinese community, as the Chinese population now amounts to 42,976, having thus more than quadrupled itself in 20 years. The figures for the last four censuses are as follows:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1901	32,861	10,116	42,976
1897	19,202	7,240	26,442
1891	14,499	5,498	19,997
1881	—	—	9,021

The above figures are for British Kowloon proper, and do not include any portion of the New Territory. The extraordinary growth of this portion of the Colony may be ascribed to several causes, among which may be mentioned the activity of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, and the establishment of Cement works at Hung Hom.

The great demand for steam launches at Manila, which has arisen since the American occupation, has also given a very considerable impetus to this trade during the last three years, nearly all the establishments for building these vessels being situated on the Kowloon side of the Harbour.

The number of Chinese families in Kowloon is 6,718. The proportion of females to males is well maintained.

The number of European and American children below the age of 15 is 58. The Chinese below that age number 5,126.

The Europeans, Americans and other Non-Chinese on board the shipping in the Harbour numbered 1,001 as compared with 1,016 in 1891. Of the Europeans, 299 were British, 108 Germans, and 35 Norwegians. There were 153 Americans. The large number of the latter is accounted for by the fact that an American mail steamer happened to be in port on the night of the census. The non-Chinese Asiatics numbered 355, and included 218 Japanese, 95 Indians, and 42 members of other Asiatic races.

In the 1897 census the number of Japanese was 63. The increase is significant of the

rapid growth of the Japanese Mercantile Marine during the last few years, although it is to a certain extent a matter of chance how many vessels of each flag happen to be in harbour on the day fixed for taking a census. The British returns are less by the number of the crew of a steamer which left the harbour without returning the census schedules which had been served on her.

The Chinese floating population amounted to 40,100, composed of 25,402 males and 14,698 females. This represents an increase of 8,348 over 1897, and 8,065 over 1891. 63 per cent. of the population consists of males. The remarkable increase is partly to be attributed, no doubt, to the increased efficiency of the steps taken to enumerate this portion of the population, which is never an easy task.

The boats were divided into six classes:—Passenger Boats, Cargo Boats, Trading and Passenger Junks, Harbour Boats, Fishing Boats, and Steam-launches. The total number of vessels was 5,836, composed of 1,442 passenger boats, 1,424 cargo boats and lighters, 495 harbour boats, 236 trading and passenger junks, 2,309 fishing boats and junks, and 200 launches. The latter figure is a remarkable one, and is probably equalled in very few other harbours. In 1891 the various classes of vessels amounted in all to 5,220, the increase in 1901 being, therefore, 616.

The population of the Harbour was 28,329, of whom 11,558 were found in boats near the northern (Kowloon) shore, 13,022 along the southern (or Hongkong) shore, and 3,949 in the middle of the harbour and at its eastern and western entrances. In 1891 the respective figures were 17,215 along the north shore and in the centre of the harbour, and 6,447 along the southern shore. The floating population of the villages is as follows:—Shaikiwan, 5,439 persons on 624 vessels; Aberdeen, 5,251 persons on 947 vessels; Stanley, 881 persons on 119 vessels. The number of boats at Shaikiwan is 19 fewer than in 1891, but the population appears to be 1,811 more. Aberdeen shows an increase of 230 boats and 1,274 persons, and Stanley one of 29 vessels and 313 persons.

The number of Chinese families in the Kowloon Peninsula and in the villages of Stanley, Shaikiwan, and Aberdeen, was ascertained, as well as in the city of Victoria. The number of families in Kowloon was 6,718, and 2,804 in the above mentioned villages. There are 25,123 families in Victoria, so the grand total amounts to 34,645. The figures for Kowloon and the villages were not obtained in 1897 and 1891 and no comparison can therefore be made.

The number of European, American and other Non-Chinese children between the ages of 6 and 15 (inclusive) was 1,178. Of this number 889 were described as being students. 132 children below the age of 6 were returned as attending school, as were 56 who were above the age of 15. In the case of the European and Portuguese especially it is probable that nearly all the children between the age limits above mentioned are in the habit of attending school whether they were returned as doing so or not.

Of the Chinese population, the number of children between 6 and 15 years of age was 15,139 boys and 12,132 girls, making a total of 27,271. As in the case of the Non-Chinese community, the number (6,576) of boys reported as being students is very much below the actual one. Nearly all Chinese boys, except of the lowest class, habitually attend school or have private teachers. In the case of the girls it is different and the number of students among them would be very small.

Philatelists will be interested to learn that the Japanese authorities have under consideration a proposal to issue a new three sen postal stamp in memory of the late Prince Kitashirakawa. The design recommended for the new stamp has in the centre a picture of the Formosa Shrine, which is dedicated to the Prince, with the Imperial crest beside it surrounded by the letters "Imperial Japanese Post." According to present arrangements the new stamps will be issued about the 20th of this month, a week or so before the inauguration festival of the shrine mentioned, which takes place on October 27th.

THE EVACUATION OF PEKING.

A N.C. Daily News correspondent writes from Peking on the 17th September:—

This is the day that really shows that evacuation has happened. Early in the morning the 3,000 soldiers of Yuan Shi-kai, under the command of General Chiang Kuei-ti, entered the city. They came through the famous Anting-men at the north, where the Allies in 1860 came as conquerors. They scattered to their respective quarters throughout the Tartar city. A portion of these Chinese troops marched to the south gate of the Forbidden City called the Wu-men. This gate has been under the guard of the American contingent from the beginning of the foreign occupation. At this gate all visitors with passes have been admitted on stated days, generally two days a week. Drawn up in the court in front of this gate were the Chinese soldiers on the east side, and the Americans and Japanese on the west. The Japanese were present as those honoured with the guard of the north, east, and west gates of the Forbidden City. American and Japanese officers stepped to the front, near to the gate, to salute the Manchu and Chinese officials who had assembled to take back the Forbidden City. The responsible persons were the three Military Governors of the Tartar City—Prince Ching, Ching Feng and Ti h Liang. With them were Chinese officials, ex-Governor Hu Yü fen, who is in charge of the Chinese military in the Tartar City, and General Chiang Kuei-ti. This is the first time that Chinese have had jurisdiction or authority in the Tartar City.

The American Legation, in the necessary absence of Mr. Conger, was represented by Mr. Bainbridge. An address was made by Prince Ching, expressing appreciation of the protection afforded, and by Major Robertson and the Japanese officer. After formalities in handing over the keys, and the arrival of the guards from the four gates, after being relieved by Chinese and Manchu guards, the American contingent marched out, followed by the Japanese. The latter marched in much better style than the former. The Chinese then wheeled around to a position clear across the court, and later, marched out of a gate at the west. The appearance of the Chinese was more creditable than that of the Manchus. The decline of Manchu power was noticeable. A large number of spectators, especially German, American and British, was present. Some had passed through the siege of last year, and could be heard expressing disgust at honours paid to the Chinese and suspicions of permanency of security.

Already the three gates leading up to the south gate of Forbidden City have been painted over; the walls and building around these courts, and the towers above the gate-ways, being repaired, plastered and painted in bright red, and the roofs coloured anew in cleanest yellow. By the time the Court returns, there will be nothing that it can see in any way to humiliate its pride or prestige. The Legation quarter adjoining the main entrance will be hid from view, and the Empress Dowager and her satellites will come home to refurbished, refurbished palaces, as from a pleasant vacation to the hill-side. What will happen is plainly indicated by the ceremonies of this day.

This evening the Ministers and the Chinese potentates give a dinner to the Japanese and American officers, though the latter will be unable to attend on account of mourning for their President. Thus closes the pleasure of a year, afforded to tens of thousands to enter the city that heretofore has been forbidden to outside nations, except to the high representatives who were allowed to enter only at the east gate and to pass thence only into the side courts and buildings. The Manchu Dynasty has suffered but little when one considers what crime it committed. Shopkeepers, innocent residents, obedient followers of Imperial orders, the Chinese people, have all suffered, but the party supremely culpable has fared well.

19th September.

The British have practically evacuated, outside of a few at the Temple of Heaven to guard the railway station at that point. The Chinese soldiers are now seen passing through all the streets and are well-behaved. They have taken the place of the Manchus on guard at the City gates.

MUSICAL NOTES.

In connection with the forthcoming Cricket Week, it has been arranged that one of the entertainments to be provided for visitors from Shanghai and Singapore will take the form of a minstrel concert. A selection of "coon" and "nigger" melodies has been made, and practices are about to commence. An excellent programme should be rendered, as there is no lack of the musical talent in our midst requisite for such solos and choruses as are peculiar to this class of entertainment. Doubtless, too, many wits are now busy concocting the conundrums and sayings indispensable to the "corner-men." There has of late been ample material for the provision of witticisms of this kind.

Many will be glad to learn that a concert has been arranged on behalf of that excellent and most deserving institution, the Missions to Seamen, of which that ever genial and hard-working padre, the Rev. J. H. France, is senior chaplain. The entertainment, which takes place on the 16th inst., at 9 p.m., will be given entirely by the members of the Choir of St. John's Cathedral, and will be held in the Hon. C. P. Chater's bungalow at Kowloon, the loan of which has been kindly promised for the occasion. The programme, which will be an attractive one, will consist of vocal and instrumental music, and amongst those who will sing will be Mrs. Lowson, Mr. Alec Marsh, and Mr. G. P. Lammert. Bandmaster Moir, R.W.F., who is a member of the Choir, will give a cello solo, and part-songs will also be sung. The whole of the proceeds, after paying expenses, will be handed over to the Mission. A good audience will doubtless be present to assist the Choir in the furtherance of this good work amongst needy seamen and others in our midst.

Lovers of music will be gratified to know that it has been decided by the Anglican Church choirs in Hongkong, in emulation of the work at home, to give an annual Festival in St. John's Cathedral, the object being the furtherance of choir work and the promotion of Church music. The first Festival, it is hoped, will be given in November, and the oratorio selected is Gaul's *Holy City*. It will be rendered by about seventy voices, those taking part being the members of the Choirs of St. John's Cathedral, St. Peter's Church, and the Garrison Church. The band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, by kind permission of Colonel Bertie and the officers, will be in attendance, and will most likely play the opening processional hymn, Sullivan's "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and the opening Voluntary. Mr. G. P. Lammert, who will be tenor soloist, will conduct the practices, and Bandmaster Moir will conduct on the night of the Festival, while the soloists will be trained by Mr. Alec Marsh. The precise date of the Festival is not yet fixed but it will probably be about the end of November, as already stated. Admission will be free, but a collection will be taken on behalf of the Cathedral choir fund.

The concert given in the Soldiers' Club on Monday evening was a pleasing success, and was much enjoyed by those present. Now the cool weather is setting in, it is to be hoped these entertainments will become more frequent as they are much appreciated by the officers and men of the Garrison. Bandmaster Moir has a wonderful amount of energy and is an able musician, and to him and his bandmen, supplemented with the interest displayed by the officers of the R.W.F., is due the credit of these excellent entertainments. Much praise is also due to Mr. Terrill, the manager of this prosperous Club, and the Committee, whose one united ambition is to brighten the lot of Tommy Atkins in this usually dull Colony, and keep him out of mischief by providing healthy recreation and amusement. More power to their elbow!

It would really be interesting to know if the Hongkong Choral Society and the Hongkong Philharmonic Society exist otherwise than in the local Directory! The Choral Society has a valuable music library stowed away somewhere in the City Hall (possibly the Museum); but apart from the list of officials published annually—and the same applies to the Philharmonic Society—gives no actual evidence of its existence. Why this should be so it is difficult to imagine, for if the present officers have no

time or inclination to fulfill their respective functions, then the sooner they acknowledge the fact the better. The Colony at present is running about half a dozen teachers of singing, which is evidence of much interest being taken in vocal music, but nothing seems to eventuate in the form of a public entertainment worthy of the place and the community. Surely during the coming season the two societies combined can do something in the way of a good musical entertainment.

Mr. Alec Marsh will most likely sing at a farewell concert at Canton towards the end of this month before leaving for Shanghai. His loss will be much felt locally, and the good wishes of all will go with him; but it is not unlikely the Colony will see him again on a flying visit from the "Model Settlement," which he will make his headquarters until he goes home next year. He is a big man with a big heart and a big voice, and has done much to improve vocal music in Hongkong, and has never hesitated to chip in and sing at any of the soldiers' and sailors' concerts. I understand that when he does go home, he may return on a trip to the gorgeous East with a few other musical celebrities.

Mr. Marsh seems to belong to the *Ladies' Field* has the following:—"Our portrait this week represents Miss Ethel Marsh a young violinist, who has studied both at the Royal Academy of Music (under M. Sauret) and the Brussels Conservatoire. Miss Marsh is a niece of Mr. Alec Marsh and of Madame Alice Esty, and made her debut in 1898 during a concert with Madame Esty, since when she has played with success in the provinces and in London, notably at the Sunday League orchestral concerts at Queen's Hall. Assisted by Madame Alice Esty, Mlle. Janotha, and Mr. Denham Price, this young artist gave an entirely successful concert last week at 91, Eaton Square, by kind permission of Mrs. Whitelaw. In a Beethoven Sonata for violin and piano, in which the support of so experienced a pianist as Mlle. Janotha was most valuable, Miss Marsh gave evidence of sound method, and a large audience showed its honest appreciation of her three subsequent solos, a "Canzonetta" by Ambrosio, an "Elfentanz" by Popper, and a well-known air by Bach for the G string only. Madame Esty (Mrs. Alec Marsh) is best in the lighter songs of her repertoire, such as Sullivan's "O. Swallow, Swallow." Miss Ethel Marsh leaves London shortly on a concert tour in the provinces."

DECANI.

ENGINEERS' CONCERT.

A successful and thoroughly enjoyable "smoker" was given on Saturday, 28th ult. by the members of the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders at their rooms in Des Vœux Road. The programme was large and comprehensive, and was evidently well appreciated, judging by the continued applause which met each item; while "the inner man" was not forgotten by the committee in charge of arrangements. The programme opened, owing to the absence of Mr. H. A. Minto, with a song by Mr. H. B. Bridger, who rendered "The King's Champion" and "The Gauntlet." Mr. Brand sang "Jessie's Dream," but was heard to better advantage in "Anchored." Mr. Sibbitt delighted the audience with a violin solo, an intermezzo from *Cavaleria Rusticana*, and "Home, Sweet Home." Mr. A. Cunningham's "Drinking Song" brought the audience's enthusiasm to encore pitch, and nothing less than "Father O'Flynn" would satisfy them. The same gentleman sang "Thursday" in the second part of the programme, and again had to respond with an encore. "Mandalay" was appreciatively rendered by Mr. S. O. Jenkins, who in response to an encore sang "She is the Belle of New York" and later on "The Harmless Little Girl" and "A Jovial Mind." Mr. W. J. Terrill delighted the audience with "The Merry Monk" and "The Deathless Army" as an encore. He again obliged later on with "Ashore" and "Queen of the Earth." Mr. E. O. Murphy amused his audience with "Mary had a little Ram." Sergeant Simmers, R.E., a guest, who sang well, obliged the audience with "The Admiral's Broom" and as an encore "The Skipper." As a finale he sang "The Longshoreman" and "Out on the Deep."

We must not forget to mention that a great part of the success of evening was due to the untiring labours of Mr. T. Hughes, who so generously gave his services as accompanist.

The programme having come to a close, Mr. W. Ramsay, Vice-President of the Institute, expressed his gratification at the undeniable success which the efforts of the committee had met, and intimated the probability that these "smokers" would become a monthly institution, and expressed a hope that he would see the same faces gathered together at the next month's concert. A vote of thanks to the committee, Mr. Hughes the accompanist, and the gentlemen who so kindly helped, all of whom but one were non-members, was then proposed by the chairman and enthusiastically carried. Another vote of thanks by the members to the visitors was followed by "Auld Lang Syne."

DINNER AT THE CLUB LUSITANO.

Members of the Club Lusitano celebrated the birthday of Their Most Faithful Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal on the 28th ult. by a dinner in the club-house. The large and commodious hall of the club, which was used on many previous occasions for balls, theatrical performances and concerts, was plainly but tastefully decorated for the purpose and proved to be an excellent banquet-hall, providing accommodation without the least inconvenience for about 70 persons, who sat down to do full justice to an excellent menu provided by the Club's chef. Senhor Conselheiro Romano presided and there were present, besides the members of the Club, Mr. Haver Droeze, Consul-General for the Netherlands, Mr. Oustioff, Consul for Russia, Mr. Kato, Consul for Japan, the Vice-Consul for France, and a few officers of H.M.S. *Argonaut*. Other foreign consuls were also invited, but for various reasons were unable to be present. The health of the King and Queen was proposed by Senhor Romano, and was very enthusiastically received, the band playing the Portuguese national anthem. The arrangements were ably carried out by the committee, and everything went off without the slightest hitch. Through the courtesy of Commodore Powell, Captain Cherry and the officers of H.M.S. *Argonaut*, their band, under the leadership of Mr. Moss, was present, and enlivened the proceedings with a selected programme. It was a very successful dinner, and the guests left highly pleased with the hospitality dispensed by the members.

The following was the menu:—

Sopa de ninho de passaro á mandarina.
Peixe com molho de tomates.
Pastelinhos folhados de figado.
Assado de narcejas com agriões á jardineira.
Lombo de vacca lardado com molho de ceps.
Paté de foie gras de Strasbourg com trufas.
Pombo com arroz á lusitana.
Capão e carneiro assados á ingleza.
Presunto de York.
Salada russa.
Espargos e ervilhas á franceza.
Feijão verde guizado e batatas.
Pudding á romana. Geleia. Sorvete de morangos.
Conservas e fructas de estação, &c., &c.

In the twenty-six years during which the Malay States have had the advantage of British advice and protection (says Sir Frank Swettenham, who was Acting High Commissioner, in his just published report) the revenue has grown from about £100,000 to over £1,500,000. Over 250 miles of railway, 1,300 miles of cart-road and 1,400 miles of telegraph have been constructed. Waterworks, wharves, hospitals, prisons, schools, and many other public buildings have been constructed, while, at this moment, the Government of Perak is engaged upon an important scheme of irrigation which will benefit about 60,000 acres of land and cost about a million dollars. The four states under British protection were federated in 1896, their total revenue for that year being a little over eight million dollars. As some proof of the success of this step it is not a little remarkable that in 1900 the revenue should have almost doubled, thus securing in less than five years as large a measure of increase as had been gained in the previous twenty years.

PROFESSIONAL SUPERVISION OF BUILDING WORKS IN HONGKONG.

The following letter, which was laid before the Legislative Council on Thursday last, deserves careful consideration:—

Hongkong, 6th September, 1901.

To the Honourable

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

SIR,—In accordance with your letter No. 2171, dated 29th August, 1901, to Messrs. Leigh and Orange, a meeting was held yesterday of the undersigned Civil Engineers, Architects and Surveyors, who represent the firms who have been in practice for the longest period in the Colony.

It was resolved to thank you for the opportunity given to express our ideas on the subjects mentioned in Messrs. Leigh and Orange's letter to you of 19th August.

It was felt that question of design and supervision of buildings was by far the most urgent, and that we could defer the deliberation on plans for new houses until we had received copy of the Honourable the Acting Director of Public Works' Plan of Improved Chinese Dwellings, dated August 1st, 1901, which we would be glad to receive at your early convenience.

We trust you will not think we are going beyond our province in discussing questions which you had not expressly referred to us, but the seriousness and urgency of the matter is our excuse.

We beg to suggest that this question of professional practice and supervision of works might be dealt with speedily by the making of a special short Ordinance, and we trust the following (our unanimous opinion) may be of some assistance.

SUGGESTIONS.

1. Only qualified Civil Engineers, Architects, and Surveyors to be allowed to practise in the Colony, and plans from only such persons to be accepted by the Government under the Building and Public Health Ordinances.
2. All building operations must be carried out under the supervision of a qualified Civil Engineer, Architect, or Surveyor.
3. The Civil Engineer, Architect, or Surveyor to have the power to employ, at the expense of the owner, such supervision as he may consider necessary.
4. The following persons to be admitted as qualified to practise, viz:—

- (a.) Members or Associate Members of the Institution of Civil Engineers, England.
- (b.) Fellows or Associates of the Royal Institution of British Architects.
- (c.) Any person who has carried on the profession of Civil Engineer, Architect, or Surveyor for 10 years continuously in the Colony.
- (d.) Any other persons who shall satisfy a Board (such as the Public Works Committee) that they are properly qualified to practise.

REASONS.

For suggestion 1—

The numerous accidents and collapses of buildings that have taken place in recent years. Plans are now prepared by a number of so-called Architects, etc., who, in our opinion, have not the qualifications nor the knowledge necessary to design and carry out work.

It is not unusual to see buildings being constructed with an utter disregard of stability and strength of materials.

We beg to draw attention to the enquiry on the Cochrane Street disaster, where plans for an additional story were admittedly prepared without the necessary precautions.

For suggestion 2—

It is not possible nor usual anywhere for the Authorities (i.e., the Building Inspectors) to go thoroughly into every design, calculate all the strains on piers, walls, columns, beams, &c., and thus take the responsibility of checking plans, nor is it possible for the Building Inspectors to thoroughly supervise all buildings in course of construction: this can only be done by the Architect and Overseer who is constantly on the works and under the orders only of the Engineer or Architect of the job.

The Government Inspection should be quite general, to see that the laws of the Colony are observed, and we think that with all buildings under the supervision of qualified men and absolutely no constructive work carried out without such supervision, the task of Government Inspection will be comparatively light and will not necessitate a large staff.

Considerable building operations are now being carried out without any Architect and consequently without proper supervision, the owners not caring to pay for more than the plans and being satisfied with inferior work.

It is probable that most of recent failures will be found to have occurred on buildings not under the supervision of properly qualified persons.

We again draw attention to the evidence given at the enquiry into the Cochrane Street disaster, which showed that there was no skilled supervision, and to the evidence of Mr. Tooker when he is reported to have said that he believed if the building had been under the supervision of a European Architect, when the roof had been removed the Architect would have seen at once the bad state of the walls and the disaster would have been averted.

The large amount of building now being done by Chinese Contractors without the supervision of qualified persons is having a deplorable effect on quality of work, and workmen, and in consequence it is getting more difficult every year to get good work done.

For suggestion 3—

Owners often decline or are unwilling to pay for the services of an Overseer, and it is not the duty of an Architect to be constantly on the work and thus ensure continuous good work and material.

For suggestion 4—

We beg to assure the Government that there is no desire on our part to restrict any qualified person from practising in the Colony, but we know to our certain knowledge of plans being made and work carried out by men who, we honestly do not think, should be permitted to do so.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

WM. DANBY, M. Inst. C.E.

PALMER & TURNER.

DENISON & RAM.

LEIGH & ORANGE, M.M. Inst. C.E.

METHODS OF DEALING WITH PLAGUE.

The following is Dr. Clark's report on the method of dealing with outbreaks of bubonic fever (plague), brought before the Sanitary Board on the 19th ult.:

1. *Notification.*—Cases of infectious disease are required to be reported at once to the nearest Police Station (Telephone No. 15) or to the Medical Officer of Health (Telephone No. 120) or to the Sanitary Board (Telephone No. 257). This is compulsory on "all persons knowing or having reason to believe that any person has been attacked by or is suffering from" bubonic plague, cholera or small-pox (bye-law 5 of the bye-laws governing notification of infectious disease contained in Schedule B. of Ordinance 13 of 1901); but it is almost universally evaded by the Chinese and even by the Chinese "Doctors." The penalty for its evasion is \$50.

2. *Detection of the sick.*—In the absence of notification this can only be effected by means of house-to-house visits. The Sanitary Board has power to institute, in addition to the visits of the District Inspectors, such special house-to-house visits in any district in which either of the above-named diseases may prevail, and must define the limits of such district (Bye-law 8 of the Bye-laws governing "Disinfection of infected premises" contained in Schedule B of Ordinance 13 of 1901).

3. *Removal of the sick and dead.*—Ambulances for the removal of the sick are kept at the various Police Stations, at the Canton Wharf, at the Board's matsheds at Praya East, Praya West, Yau-mati and Hung-hom, and at the Steam Disinfecting Station in Taipingshan, and sick Chinese are removed in these ambulances to the Tung Wah Hospital on application to the Sanitary Board, the Medical Officer of Health, or the Police, and are there examined by a Chinese Doctor trained in Western

medicine and are either drafted at once by him to the Plague Hospital or detained under observation in case of doubt. Non-Chinese cases are almost invariably reported, in the first instance, by a registered medical practitioner, and such cases are, on the certificate of the medical attendant, removed direct to the Kennedy Town Hospital. Should such medical attendant certify, however, that the patient "is being lodged and cared for without danger to the public health," he is not removed to Hospital. In making any application for removal, care should be taken to state distinctly whether the patient is alive or dead, for in the case of dead bodies, a dead-box is forwarded for the removal. The ambulance is attended by a Chinese constable, or a coloured foreman, who conveys the details concerning the case to the Hospital Authorities.

Heavy wooden boxes, with rubber washers fitted to lids, are used for the removal of dead bodies to the Government Mortuary; these are kept at the various Police Stations, at the Board's matsheds and at the Steam Disinfecting Station, and information concerning the death is forwarded on a card attached to the body.

4. *Treatment of the sick.*—This is entirely in the hands of the Medical Department. The Government Hospital at Kennedy Town is supplemented by a series of Matshed Hospitals, also at Kennedy Town and by a Matshed Hospital at Mongkoktsui (Kowloon), which are managed by the authorities of the Tung Wah Hospital but are under the supervision of the Medical Department.

5. *Disinfection of infected premises.*—This is carried out by four European officers assisted by eight coloured foremen, 3 Chinese foremen, 30 trained coolies and a varying number of carrying coolies. As soon as it is known that a case of the disease has occurred at any house, a Chinese constable is sent from the nearest Police Station to detain all persons found therein (Bye-law 3 of the Bye-laws governing Disinfection of infected premises contained in Schedule B of Ordinance 13 of 1901), and the officer in charge of the disinfection proceeds to the house and having provided these persons with Government clothing (if they are unable to provide uninfected clothing for themselves) he removes their own clothing, bedding, curtains, and carpets to the Steam Disinfecting Station, the clothing being tied up in coarse unbleached calico sheets and conveyed through the streets in baskets. New goods, silk clothing which has not been recently worn, furs and leather goods are not removed to the Steam Disinfecting Station, but must as a general rule remain on the premises until they have been fumigated. When the clothing, etc., is returned (in the course of some two hours) from the disinfecting station, it is handed to the owners, who have already vacated the premises, and the Government clothing is returned to the disinfecting station to be steamed before it is again used. The people displaced from their homes during the disinfection and cleansing of the premises (which usually occupies some 5 or 6 hours in all) are at liberty to make use of the Board's matshed shelters until this is complete, but usually proceed with their ordinary avocations or seek shelter in the street or in a neighbour's house.

The disinfection of the premises consists in the spraying of the walls with a solution of perchloride of mercury (1 in 1,000) followed by fumigation with free chlorine, obtained by the addition of diluted sulphuric acid to chlorinated lime (1 pint of a 1 in 5 solution of the crude acid to each lb. of the chlorinated lime). Floors and furniture are then scrubbed with a solution of one of the coal tar preparations of carbolic acid, and the walls are then lime-washed, chlorinated lime being added to the lime-wash in the proportion of 1 lb. to the gallon.

6. *Burial of the dead.*—This is carried out under the superintendence of one of the Board's European officers, all bodies being buried at the Kennedytown Plague Cemetery, unless a special permit has been granted for burial elsewhere.

General sanitary precautions.—Chlorinated lime is supplied to all the public latrines for use in the buckets, and the officers of the Board are instructed to see that it is freely used.

A reward of 3 cents per head has been offered for every rat brought to an officer of the Board, and over 50,000 rats have by this means been collected and destroyed during the first half of the current year.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 29th September.

A SAILING RACE.

In this port things generally move very slowly. In fact it may be said with a certain amount of justification that, with regard to athletics, Swatow, the once renowned sporting place, is alas! retrograding. This fact is attributable to various causes; yet in fairness to the port be it said that, when the sporting fraternity enters on a scheme, no matter of what description, it carries it out to a perfect consummation. Over sixteen months have elapsed since we had a regatta here, and now on the occasion of a Customs holiday, the Mid-Autumn Festival, Friday, the 27th instant, we bestirred ourselves once more, and a sailing race was arranged, for which eleven boats entered. The coherence of the community is ably illustrated on such joyous occasions, when neither trouble nor expense is spared to make matters a success. On the day referred to we had regular King's weather with a none too strong breeze from the South-East and East. The race began at 2.30 p.m. and finished at about 4.45 p.m., with the result of the *Feilung* carrying off the first, *Black Bess* the second, and *Uiseng* the third prize, which consisted of 70, 20, and 10 per cent. respectively of the entrance-fees. The two favourite boats *Seamew* (formerly *Tekkee*) and *Evo* would have taken either first or second place if they had not met with an accident in fouling one of the beacons. The following boats, enumerated in alphabetical order, competed in the race:—*Black Bess*, *Electra*, *Evo*, *Feilung*, *Inthia*, *Loongwah*, *Loongwang*, *Seamew*, *Trilby*, *Uiseng* and *Victoria*. Mr. Andrew acted as judge, Mr. Holz as starter, and Mr. Neubrunn as time-keeper.

S.S. "HAILOONG" AS FLAG-SHIP.

By the kind courtesy of the Captain and officers of the *Hailoong*, ship was dressed for the festive occasion, and several ladies availed themselves of the opportunity offered and repaired on board the ship, where they were nicely regaled and from which they had a splendid view of the race.

TONKIN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Hanoi, 24th September.

A NATIVE RISING.

The Khas region is in a complete state of riot. M. Robert while defending Attopen received several lance-wounds in the breast and was immediately removed to Kou-toum, where he died. With a handful of men forming the garrison of Attamen he was called on to meet a band of 300 rebels, 150 of whom had fire-arms. The Khas were assisted by many Laotians. The total number of the rebels is estimated at 3,000. They have now fallen back on Saravane, which they have looted. Several posts have been established on the Saravane-Attopen road. The Resident-Superior of the Laos region is much criticised owing to these events.

A NOTABLE MARRIAGE.

M. Emery, *administrateur des services civils*, has married Miss Blanche Doumer, a daughter of M. Doumer, our Governor-General. The nuptial ceremony took place at Cape Saint James. The witnesses for the husband were M. M. Broni and Capas, those for the wife M. Frégouls and General Dods. The civil union was performed by M. Ballant, the Cape St. James administrator, and the religious marriage by the Révérend Père Simon. The forty invited persons were among the highest military and administrative authorities in Indo-China.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Serious dissensions, caused by animosity between Roman Catholic converts and Buddhists, distress several villages in Nam Dinh Province.

Giang and his accessories in M. Martin's murder are still to seek, notwithstanding the very active pursuit of the Garde Indigène, under the command of Inspector Lambert.

M. Doumer, our Governor-General, will not visit Hanoi before the end of October. He intends to travel across Laos and will be accompanied as far as Heung-Treng, where the launches stop, by M. and Madame Emery.

French troops coming back from China especially the 18th Marines, will be put in garrison at Vietri and Phu-lang-thuong (Tonkin).

We receive from Marseilles the announcement of the shipping of the theatrical orchestra destined for Hanoi and Haiphong cities.

In the last Legion d'Honneur list, I note the names of Drs. Lepinois and Capus, and Captain Desportes, appointed to the first degree of the order.

By a special decree of the Colonial Minister, the elections for the Delegation of the Colony will take place in each city or district of Annam and Tonkin on the 22nd December 1901. Fresh candidates are MM. Lambard, an Annam colonist, Hallais, an ex-resident, and Gallars, manager of a Tonkinese paper.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 18th September.

A NEW LOCAL STEAMER.

On Saturday the 14th inst., the China-Borneo Co. launched from their yard here a new steamer for the local shipping Company, the Sabah S. S. Co., Ltd. The craft is of about a little over 100 tons register, and is constructed throughout of seasoned Borneo timber. The hull has every appearance of being an exceeding strong job, and certainly reflects great credit on her builders. The engines are Clyde-built 14in. and 28in., with 20ft. stroke, and the boiler is being built by Messrs. W. S. Bailey & Co. of Hongkong. Years ago the Chinese built some coasting steamers at Sandakan, but it is fairly certain that the steamer launched on Saturday is the largest yet built in British North Borneo, and that she will prove in every way very creditable to her builders is practically certain. As the vessel started to move down the ways she was gracefully christened the *Borneo* by Mrs. Darby, the wife of the Managing Director of the Sabah Co. It is expected that some ten weeks more will see the craft ready for sea, and we then hope to be able to give some further particulars regarding her arrangements and trial trip.

THE CHINA-BORNEO CO.

The annual meeting of the Steamship Co. referred to in the foregoing has just been held here, when a dividend of 12 per cent. for the year ended 30th June was declared. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, did not, however, hold out any brilliant prospects for the present year; quite the contrary. He said that the coasting trade had fallen off considerably of late, and that shareholders must be prepared for a lean year's working.

DEPRESSION IN SANDAKAN.

Certainly things are not looking particularly rosy just now. To take the immediate vicinity of Sandakan: the Byte Coffee Estate no longer has an European Manager, the Suan Lamboh Hemp Estate is to be closed, and the Bongaya Rubber Estate is in the market for sale. These things may not be very large in themselves, but the combination of the three at one time is not encouraging for those interested in the country, for those residing in the country, or for those who have money invested in the concerns in question. If only other ventures and industries were opening up it would not be so bad, but one looks in vain for any real sign of fresh enterprise hereabouts. Of course if the Coal Company at Tawoo turns up "trumps" that will mean a good deal in itself.

KUDAT THREATENED.

Telegraphic information having been received that natives from the interior were again threatening the peace of Kudat, a force of constabulary, under the command of Capt. Harrington, left here on Sunday night for that place. Later information received, however, would go to prove that it was only a scare, but the Kudat people have good reason for taking every precaution on the slightest signs of trouble manifesting themselves.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. CLIFFORD.

A very eulogistic address to our late Governor, Hugh Clifford, Esq., C.M.G., enclosed in a handsome silver casket, has recently left here for the Native States. The address principally testifies to the great loss the public generally felt at Mr. Clifford's removal from his position in this country.

THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH.

The sad news of the death of President McKinley was very much felt here, and the flags have been kept flying at half-mast since the receipt of the telegram. When Britain's Queen died early in the year it was little thought that America's President— hale, hearty, and well-loved as he was— would so soon "cross the border," but such is the uncertainty of life and we have now to return the wonderful sympathy our mother country received in her dark hours.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following notes are from the *P. and T. Times* of the 21st ult.:

The Japanese Military Authorities are said to be preparing to establish a telegraph service between here and Peking, on the left side of the railway.

Gen. Ma has called upon Prince Ching and Li Hung-chang since entering the City, and the Foreign Ministers have signified their intention to entertain him at dinner.

Two men are reported to have been shot at Tientsin Station trying to rush into the carriages to seize passengers' baggage. It is a grave mistake now, as it was formerly, to allow the crowd of coolies within the station compound and on platform, and we marvel that the military authorities permit it.

Last Sunday 600 brigands were reported approaching Shanhaikwan, and Chinese troops were sent off to oppose them. Some appeal for assistance was we believe made to the British, but they declined it is stated to do more than defend the railway. So far we have not heard that they achieved anything.

The Russians, says Wednesday's *Je Je*, are said to be unable to deal with the brigand difficulty in southern Manchuria single handed, and seeing this the Japanese essayed to go and attack the Chinese, but were at first prevented by the French. The Germans then protested against the French interference and their objection was withdrawn, so the Japanese are stated to have gone out against the brigands. The nucleus of great possibilities lies in this entry of Japanese into Manchuria, if true.

NEWCHWANG.

The Russian Minister returned by rail from Port Arthur on 9th instant, and left at 4 o'clock next morning, with Mr. Acting Consul Kristy, by the Shanhaikwan line, presumably for Peking.

Movements of war vessels are:—The British *Plover* arrived on 30th July, and left for Chefoo on 2nd instant; it is not known if she will return or will be replaced by another vessel.

The Russian *Mandjour* arrived on 17th August to relieve the *Sivoutch*, and is expected to leave this in a few days.

The American *New Orleans* arrived outside the bar early this month and remained there for three or four days; her commander Sperry came up to town in a steam-launch, but only stayed for a few hours.

The German *Jagur* arrived on the evening of 3rd instant, and left at noon on 9th for Tongku.

Both the British and Japanese have made enquiries as to the cost of a dock in case they should be ordered to winter here.

There are rumours that the Russians are strengthening their forces in Southern Manchuria, but I know nothing positive.

The precautionary measures at once adopted seem to have prevented the spread of the plague.

Buildings have been going forward apace here. Mr. H. A. Bush has built a large two-storied house for his own use this spring, and added several rooms to the Japanese Consulate. Captain Laurence is building a one-storied house with two rooms in the roof; Mr. Setoff is building a two-storied house. The French Fathers are building a large two-storied house for themselves; Mr. Lister is building the new American Consulate; Messrs. Bandinel & Co. have built a new office, two-storied; and Mr. Sandberg is building a three-storied hotel, while the old hotel is having a large two-storied addition made, and two new bean mills are in course of erection.

Forty German miners engaged for the German mines in Shantung will sail for China on the 1st November.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE FUNDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 28th September, 1901.

SIR,—The sensible leader in your issue of this morning will be appreciated by many of your readers. It would be interesting to know on what grounds it was considered necessary to vote a sum of \$50,000 to the Queen Victoria Memorial Fund to supplement the amount of nearly \$78,000 raised by private subscription. His Excellency the Governor, according to your report of the proceedings at the Council Meeting on Thursday, gave no explanation. The Legislative Council, more especially as it is not a representative body, was surely not well advised in taking upon itself to vote any portion of the revenue of the Colony for such a purpose. The sum of \$50,000 is, it is true, a mere nothing to the Colony, but there are at least three distinct grounds why such a vote should not have been made:—

(1) The Legislative Council, although it has legally the power, had no right to make it.

(2) The idea of erecting one large memorial in London and asking British subjects all over the world to subscribe to it is absurd, and a much fitter way of erecting a memorial worthy of Her late Majesty could, in so far as this Colony is concerned, have been found in Hongkong.

(3) To commandeer public funds after having accepted voluntary subscriptions is no compliment to the late Queen.—Yours, etc.,

DISGUSTED.

SALARIES OF SUBORDINATE CIVIL OFFICERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 30th September.

SIR,—I beg to draw your attention to the article in the *Government Gazette*, dated 31st August, relative to increase of salaries to the Police, Gaol, Sanitary Board, Public Works Department and Government Civil Hospital applied for in 1900. In the same year the Police received their rise, and in 1901 the Gaol received theirs, dating from 1st January, 1901. The remaining three Departments are left in the cold until 1st January, 1902. Why is this—through influence or what?—Yours, etc.,

INTERESTED.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

The eighteenth ordinary annual meeting of the Douglas Steamship Company, Limited, was held in the offices of Messrs Douglas Lapraik & Co., the General Managers, on Saturday, 28th ult. Mr. H. P. White (Chairman) presided, and the others present were Messrs R. Shewan, C. S. Sharp, C. H. Thompson and Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving (Consulting Committee), W. Parfitt (Secretary), G. L. Tomlin, T. H. Reid, S. A. Joseph, G. C. C. Master, W. Davis, W. S. Bailey, A. R. Ezekiel, W. H. Gaskell, Ho Fook, Capt. Roach, T. F. Hough, P. Potts, A. Babington, E. Georg, G. C. Anderson, and Chun Tong. After the notice convening the meeting had been read by the SECRETARY,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, we propose, with your permission, and following the usual custom, to take them as read. I regret that, owing to unforeseen circumstances, we were not able to place them before you some days earlier. You will gather from the report that it is proposed to pay a dividend of 6 per cent. on the capital of the Company, and to write off the balance of profit, amounting to \$41,087 38 from the values of the Company's properties. To some shareholders it may appear that the amount which it is proposed to write off is large in proportion to the net profit, but I would point out that nothing was written off from this account last year, and that, while some of the older steamers stand in at a low figure, the newer boats have been written down to a small extent only, and you must bear in mind that by passing this amount to depreciation account the intrinsic

value of the shares is greatly enhanced, and the position of the Company will be strengthened, until we see a return of that prosperity which we have, until recent years, enjoyed. The General Managers and Consulting Committee, after mature consideration, have decided that this is the most-desirable manner in which to distribute the profits of the year, and we have confidence that shareholders will sustain us in that opinion. Regarding the past year's working, the chartering of some of the Company's steamers to the Government has been responsible for a not inconsiderable portion of the profits thereon, and while on this subject I may mention that the *Formosa* is still under charter, and will in all probability remain in the North till late in the year. Our coasting trade during the period under review has been restricted, particularly during the first part of the present year, and this, coupled with keen competition on the part of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, has made profits on the steamers' earnings on the coast only moderate. I am pleased to be able to state, however, that during the last few months the demand for tonnage on our lines has considerably increased, and though we have not, so far, been able to make any satisfactory arrangement with the management of the competing line, we are not without hope that before long we may be able to report that an understanding has been come to. As regards the present year, I may say that the Company's steamers are fully employed, and that the earnings for the quarter are very satisfactory, and should this improvement in trade continue, there is every prospect of a remunerative year's working. I should like to draw attention to the amount, \$13,727.16, still owing by the late Amoy agents (Messrs Lapraik, Cass & Co.) and to say that a further sum will be recovered against this during October. It is expected that by the sale of 195 shares in the Company, standing in the name of the late Mr. Cass, on which the Company has, under its Articles of Association a lien, the whole debt will be paid off by the end of the current year. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

Mr. JOSEPH—Gentlemen, before the report and accounts are passed I should like to put a few questions. I see from the report that the value of the Company's six steamers is put down at \$1,054,203.16. Does this sum represent the present market value?

The CHAIRMAN—No. It represents the value as it is written down in the books.

Mr. JOSEPH—Yes, but is the market value of the steamers more than this sum, or less?

The CHAIRMAN—They will have to be valued before we can say the exact market value.

Mr. JOSEPH—I see here that they are valued at that amount. Are they over-valued or under-valued?

The CHAIRMAN—We should have to get them valued to ascertain that.

Mr. JOSEPH—So they are not valued?

The CHAIRMAN—No.

Mr. JOSEPH—Do you consider it absolutely necessary to write off this sum of \$41,087.78 from the book value of the Company's property?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. JOSEPH—On what grounds?

The CHAIRMAN—Because the present position of the Company is such that we cannot neglect to do so.

Mr. JOSEPH—So it is a fair value of the steamers?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, a fair value.

Mr. JOSEPH—Evidently the dividend that is being paid is not actually earned. How is it earned?

The CHAIRMAN—There it is: \$109,208.26, the profit for the year, then you bring \$57,288.31 from the Reserve Fund and deduct \$65,408.78, the debit balance, from last account.

Mr. JOSEPH—Yes, but this year we are paying a dividend that is not earned, and which is taken from the Bank and paid to the shareholders. Is that not so?

The CHAIRMAN—Oh, no.

Mr. JOSEPH—I see from the report that the General Managers and Consulting Committee attribute the unsatisfactory business of the Company to the low and unremunerative rates which are ruling for cargo to and from the coast ports and Formosa, coupled with the high price of fuel. Is it not also the fact that shippers receive less consideration at the hands

of the General Managers than they do from the opposing line, and, in consequence of that, they have withdrawn their support?

The CHAIRMAN—No, you are quite wrong.

Mr. JOSEPH—Well, to my knowledge there are two of the biggest opium-shippers, whose collective freights to us amount to \$17,500 annually, who have withdrawn their support. One of them lately is only giving the Company something like 30 or 35 per cent. of his shipping. That is to my knowledge; not hearsay.

Mr. HOUGH—I rise to a point of order. Mr. Joseph just states that he knows an opium shipper who has received better terms from the opposition line than he received from the hands of the Douglas line. I take it that our case, where there is opposition with one line competing against another, he has gone to the cheapest market.

Mr. JOSEPH—Is that your answer?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. JOSEPH—Is it not the fact that, when a robbery was committed on board one of our steamers, the shippers complained and did not receive the due consideration they deserved?

The CHAIRMAN—I am going to answer that question by and by.

Mr. JOSEPH—I would like to know what is the aggregate amount of charter money received from the Government?

The CHAIRMAN—Any more questions?

Mr. JOSEPH—Is there no answer to that question?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, by and by.

Mr. JOSEPH—I see that you also mention in the report that the General Managers have from time to time approached the opposing line with a view to advancing the rates on the coast and at Tamsui, but that up to the present no satisfactory arrangement has been come to. I only want to ask who "approached." Did you approach them first, or they you?

The CHAIRMAN—That will also be answered by and by.

Mr. JOSEPH—There is nothing mentioned in the report about the steamer running south. Is this venture proving advantageous? I should like also to know what is the average annual sum spent on the upkeep and maintenance, etc., of the Company's fleet. That is all I want to know.

The CHAIRMAN—With regard to your remarks, I reply, as regards the writing down of our steamers, that the steamers are old and buyers do not want old steamers, although of course, to replace them we should have to pay a little more. They are written down at what we think is a fair value. With regard to what you said about the carriage of cargo by the opposition boats, I may say that the amount of cargo carried by the Douglas boats is probably three times as much as that carried by the Japanese boats, and, with regard to what you said about the opium, we know that there is one big shipper who also ships by the Japanese boats as well—perhaps in larger quantities by the Japanese boats because he gets a cheaper rate, as we know.

As regards the robbery of opium at Foochow, which you refer to, that was brought before us and the claim was paid by us. With reference to the amount of charter money paid us by the Government, I don't think it would be at all advisable to discuss that at a public meeting. It will come out afterwards. With regard to approaching the opposition, we ourselves have from time to time written letters asking them to consult to try and get rates up.

To these letters they have always returned evasive replies, and at present, although the management down here of the Japanese steamers express themselves as willing to fall in with our views, they state that they cannot do it without hearing from the Head Office in Japan. That is how the matter stands at present. You ask whether the Southern line is a paying venture. I don't think it is desirable to discuss in public whether one part of the line pays or not, and the same remark applies to the amount paid for repairs and management, etc. To give these things away at a public meeting would be very detrimental to the interests of the Company and we should be giving to our opponents a great deal of information they should not know. (Applause.)

Mr. JOSEPH—My object in asking these questions was simply to elicit more clearly certain matters connected with the sum available

for dividend, and because there are people outside who are talking too much about the commission the General Managers are charging. I asked those questions to elicit the facts, so that people will not talk so much against the Company. (Applause.)

There were no further questions, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. TOMLIN, the report and accounts were adopted.

Mr. HOUGH moved the re-election of Messrs R. Shewan, C. S. Sharp, C. H. Thompson and Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving as Consulting Committee.

Mr. REID seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. JOSEPH moved, and Mr. EZEKIEL seconded, that Messrs. W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.

The motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Tuesday.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LTD.

The final general meeting of shareholders in this company was held shortly after noon, the 3rd ult. at the offices of the Company, 14, Des Vœux Road. Mr. R. C. Wilcox was elected to the chair, and there were present Messrs. A. Denison, G. Engel, C. Mittell, C. E. Osmund, K. Edulji, G. Atz-nroth (secretary), and Mr. Bennecke (liquidator).

After reading the report of the liquidator, which had not been generally circulated or published, and which is given below, the CHAIRMAN said—The accounts appear to be in good order, and there is a balance of \$459.30. First of all, however, I beg to propose that the report and accounts be passed.

Mr. ETZENROTH seconded, and the motion was carried.

CHAIRMAN—Now as to the balance.

Mr. DENISON—I propose that the balance of \$459.30 shown in the liquidator's statement be and is hereby voted to Mr. Bennecke, subject, however, to such further expenses as may arise.

Mr. EDULJI seconded, and the motion was carried.

CHAIRMAN—Another resolution has to be approved, and that is with regard to the final winding-up. I beg to propose, therefore, that the books, documents, etc., belonging to the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Ltd. (in liquidation), be handed over to Messrs Lutgens, Einstmann & Co., for safe custody, until the dissolution of the company be declared by the Court, and that they be then destroyed. This, I may tell you, I propose because the liquidator will have to go to Saigon to take up an appointment, and will not be here in the interval. The books, and so on, must be handed over to some one, and of course it will occur to you all that Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann & Company, on whose premises they now are, should retain them in their custody, more especially as they were the general managers.

Mr. OSMUND seconded the proposal, which was carried.

CHAIRMAN—The amounts in suspense will be lodged in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and those shareholders who have any money to their credit may apply for it. They will have to send in their scrip and a receipt to the liquidator, when the money will be handed over to them. If not claimed, the money will be kept for six months in the Bank, and at the end of that period will be given over to the Supreme Court. That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance.

The report is as follows:—

The liquidator begs to submit to the shareholders a statement of the liquidation account.

SUSPENSE ACCOUNT.

2,150 shares have been received, but not paid yet, as one owner gave no order to whom to pay and two did not send a receipt signed by the registered owner.

3,750 shares, owners could not be found or did not apply for the dividend, viz:—

Frederick Arch. Brown (in Europe, no Power of Attorney left)...	150 Shares.
W. von Uffel, (in Europe, no Power of Attorney left) ...	600 "
G. T. Siemssen, Foochow ...	100 "
R. M. Mehta, deceased, trustee to arrive in a few days ...	850 "
W. Roynell, Shanghai ...	100 "
M. M. Tackeo ...	50 "
Wong Tat Chuen ...	100 "
Moh Tong ...	350 "
Su Tai Ting ...	300 "
Yut Loong Chan ...	50 "
Wong Kam Fuk ...	300 "
Lam Kam Ting ...	500 "
Wong Sang ...	300 "
Tong King ...	100 "

BALANCE.

The balance is not final, as there will be postage, duty stamps, and registration fees to be paid: the exact amount cannot be stated to-day.

M. BENNECKE,
Liquidator

LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT.

Dr.		
To cash account		
Balance handed over by General Agents	\$ c.	
Agents	1,386.17	
Balance from sale of mine: £935 16s. 8d. at 1.11 7-16ths	10,094.93	
		11,481.10
To furniture account		
Office furniture sold	159.00	
		\$14,640.10
Cr.		
By General Agents		
Petty expenses: March and April	\$ c.	102.06
Remuneration: April and May at \$250	500.00	
		602.06
By office rent		
4 months at \$50	200.00	
By advertisements		
Advertisement in 5 newspapers	184.80	
By legal expenses		
Bills: Dennys and Bowley	78.60	
By M. Bennecke		
Remuneration: 4 months at \$300	1,200.00	
By printed matter and stationery: Reports, stationery, etc.	20.00	
By O'D. Gourdin		
For Auditing Co.'s account	100.00	
By petty expenses		
Postage and duty stamps, registration fees, etc.	23.10	
By dividend account		
43,151 shares at 24 cents	10,356.24	
By suspense account		
2,150 shares at 24 cents, shares received but not paid yet	516.00	
3,750 shares at 24 cents, unclaimed	900.00	
		1,416.00
By balance		459.30
		\$14,640.10

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twentieth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the offices of the general agents, on the 17th October, at noon:—

The General Agents and Consulting Committee beg to submit to the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1900, and an estimate of the present year's working to the 30th ultimo.

1900 ACCOUNT.

The result of the year's working is a credit balance of \$264,448.57, out of which, and with the approval of the shareholders, it is proposed to pay a dividend of 26 per cent. (=813 per share), to add \$50,000 to the reserve fund raising the reserve to \$1,200,000, and to carry forward the balance of \$84,448.57 to the current year's account.

1901 ACCOUNT.

This account shows an estimated balance at credit of \$509,591.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. J. H. Lewis having resigned, Mr. H. P. White was invited to and accepted the vacant seat. This appointment requires the confirmation of the shareholders. The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. D. Gillies, F. Maitland, D. M. Moses, and H. P. White retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.
The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Fullarton Henderson and W. H. Potts, whose re-election is recommended.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents,
Canton Insurance Office, Limited.
Hongkong, 28th September, 1901.

The following are the accounts:—
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.
For the year ending 31st December, 1900.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital subscribed	32,500,000.00	
Amount paid-up	500,000.00	
Reserve fund	1,150,000.00	
Outstanding dividends	5,247.00	
Outstanding bonus	826.85	
Accounts payable	90,000.00	
Balance of working account, 1900	264,448.57	
	\$2,010,522.42	
ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash, on current account with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	147,739.02	
Fixed deposits:		
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	100,000.00	
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	25,000.00	
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited	50,000.00	
Bank of China and Japan, Limited	25,000.00	
Mortgages	1,013,720.19	
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	94,000.00	
Shanghai and Hong-ew Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	68,864.57	
Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1886	56,835.05	
United States bonds (4 per cent. loan, 1925)	400,000.00	
Interest accrued but not yet payable	29,363.59	
	\$2,010,522.42	

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1900.	\$	c.
To amount brought forward from last account	62,053.70	
To net premium received, less returns and re-insurances	1,338,879.16	
To exchange	2,772.71	
To interest	123,814.84	
To transfer fees	52.00	
	\$1,527,573.41	

Cr.	\$	c.
By losses and claims paid	1,042,037.78	
By charges, including directors' and auditors' and survey fees, agents' expenses, etc.	97,002.63	
By commissions	123,984.43	
By balance as above	264,448.57	
	\$1,527,573.41	

ESTIMATE OF WORKING ACCOUNT.

To the 30th September, 1901.

Dr.	\$	c.
To premium, less re-insurances	1,090,865.90	
To interest, received and accrued	92,000.00	
To exchange	96.00	
To transfer fees	58.00	
	\$1,183,019.90	
Cr.	\$	c.
By losses paid and outstanding	513,423.00	
By charges paid and accrued	73,000.00	
By commissions paid and accrued	87,000.00	
By balance	509,591.60	
	\$1,183,019.60	

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

The following is the forty-third report of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited (Yokohama Shokin Ginko), presented to the shareholders at the half-yearly ordinary general meeting, held at the head office, Yokohama, on the 10th September:—

The gross profits of the bank for the past half-year, including yen 404,338.610 brought forward from last accounts, amount to yen 6,423,931.520, of which yen 4,526,850.195 have been deducted for current expenses, interests, &c., leaving a balance of yen 1,897,081.325.

The directors now propose that yen 20,000,000 be added to the reserve fund, raising it to yen 8,510,000,000. From the remainder the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of thirteen per cent. per annum, which will absorb yen 780,000.00 on old shares and yen 300,000.00 on new shares, making a total of yen 1,170,000.000.

The balance, yen 527,081.325, will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

NAGATANE SOMA, Chairman.

Head Office, Yokohama, 10th Sept., 1901.

The following are the accounts:—
BALANCE-SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital paid up	18,000,000.000
Reserve fund	8,310,000.000
Reserve for doubtful debts	328,190.500
Reserve for new building	214,890.540
Deposits (current, fixed, etc.)	45,035,081.815
Bills payable, bills rediscounted, acceptances, and other sums due by the bank	76,711,597.204
Dividends unclaimed	4,482.380
Amount brought forward from last account	404,338.610
Net profit for the past half-year	1,492,742.715
	Yen 150,502,764

ASSETS.	Yen.
Cash account	
In hand	6,143,929.710
At bankers	1,758,559.560
	10,907,489.270
Investments in public securities	24,236,474.410
Bills discounted, loans, advances, &c.	35,076,045.920
Bills receivable and other sums due to the bank	79,504,428.134
Gold and foreign money	88,570.090
Bank premises, properties, furniture, &c.	639,316.940
	Yen 150,502,324.764

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
To current expenses, interests, &c	4,526,850.195
To reserve fund	200,000.000
To dividend:-	
Yen 6,500 per share for 120,000 old shares = yen 780,000.000; and yen 3.250 per share for 120,000 new shares = yen 390,000.000	1,170,000.000
To balance carried forward to next account	527,081.325
	Yen 6,423,931.520

By balance brought forward 31st Dec., 1900	Yen. 404,338.610
By amount of gross profits for the half-year ending 30th June, 1901	6,019,592.910
	<hr/> Yen 6,423,931.520

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 30th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

J. ROSSELET AND CO. v. THE GODOWN CO.

The plaintiffs, J. Rosselet and Co., merchants, sued the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, for the sum of \$276 damages for the non-delivery by the defendants to the plaintiffs, in January, 1900, of two cases of Bass and Co's Pale Ale, the property of the plaintiffs, at \$23 per case. The hearing took place on the 26th ult. The judgment is as follows:—

In August, 1899, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha s.s. *Sado Maru* arrived in this Colony and discharged thirty cases of ale and stout into the Kowloon Godowns of the defendant Company. The shippers were Hannams, Ltd., who shipped under a bill of lading made out to "order." Hannams, Ltd., endorsed the bill of lading in blank and sent it to the plaintiffs, who were consignees of the ale and stout in question. The plaintiff obtained the countersignature of the agent of the *Sado Maru* to the bill of lading, which was endorsed by Rosselet & Co. and presented to the defendant Company and retained by that Company. Up to 26th August, 1899, eighteen of the thirty cases had been removed by the consignees. On that date the consignees received from the defendants a short delivery note for the balance of 12 cases. On the 20th January, 1900, the plaintiffs sent to take delivery of this balance, but were informed that it had been sold by auction. The short delivery note was then put into a safe, where it slipped under a drawer and was not discovered till the beginning of April, 1901. This accident is the reason why an action was not brought earlier.

The present action is brought upon the short delivery note of the 26th August, 1899, to recover \$276 damages, being the value of 12 cases at \$23 a case, for non-delivery on demand made on 20th January, 1900. A variety of defences, as unexpected as they were unsound, was advanced. First, it was set up that there was no contract contained in the short delivery

note, because there was no consideration for the promise to deliver to the holder of it.

The plaintiffs parted with their bill of lading or document of title to goods in return for the short delivery note: that was a consideration, and if necessary, an implied promise to pay storage dues could be added as a consideration.

The defence of negligence also fails, for there was no voluntary acquiescence of the plaintiffs in the infringement of their rights by the defendants: it was merely the loss of the short delivery note which delayed action being taken.

Then it was said that plaintiffs were out of time and could not bring an action on the contract. This was said in reference to the phrase "del. up to 22nd September, 1899," which appears on the face of the short delivery note. Other short delivery notes put in show that this, in full, is "deliver up to 22nd September, 1899," and not "delivery up to 22nd September, 1899." The former phrase is an order, the latter phrase is a promise. The construction which the Court places on "deliver up to 22nd September, 1899" is that it is a direction to servants of the Wharf and Godown Co. and is not an integral portion of the short delivery note. If that construction is wrong and the phrase is to be construed as equivalent to "delivery will be given up to 22nd September, 1899," and is to be viewed, as contended, as a condition precedent, I observe that this is a condition which is to be fulfilled by the defendant Company and one which, if not enforced by the plaintiffs, becomes a mere warranty giving rise to an action for damages, but does not operate to discharge the plaintiffs. If the phrase means "delivery is to be taken by 22nd September, 1899," it is also clear that, if it was a condition precedent, the defendants have by their conduct allowed it to deteriorate into a mere warranty sounding in damages, and that this does not operate to discharge the defendants.

Having regard to the practice of the Wharf and Godown Co. to keep goods four or five months, and to the words themselves, it seems to me to be impossible to make the words "del. up to 22nd September, 1899," read as if they meant, "We give you up to the 22nd September, 1899, as the limit of time for clearance; if you don't clear within that time, we shall dispose of the goods as we see fit." I feel almost sure that the defendants did not mean this, and I am sure that the plaintiffs would not have contracted on such terms.

As regards the point that delivery was to be taken within a reasonable time, I think not only that the demand of the 20th January, 1900, was made within reasonable time, but also that no idea that the goods had been kept for an unreasonable time had occurred to the defendants, otherwise due warning would in fair play have been given to the plaintiffs.

If this action for damages for breach of contract to deliver had failed, it would be surprising if the defendants were not liable in conversion as well as upon an implied contract created by the relation of the parties.

The plaintiffs are liable to the defendants for \$6 storage, and this will be set off against the sum of \$276 claimed.

The result is that judgement will be for plaintiffs for \$270 and costs, which, I am sorry, cannot be as between solicitor and client, because this is not matter of equitable jurisdiction.

Mr. F. B. Deacon, solicitor (Messrs. Deacon and Hastings), appeared for the defendants; and Mr. J. Hays, solicitor (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) for the plaintiffs.

It is reported that the German authorities are making preparations for the appointment of a consul or commercial agent at Moji or Shimonoseki in the near future. In consequence of this, the people of Moji and Shimonoseki are seeking to obtain the establishment of the Consulate at their respective port.

A defect has lately been discovered in the bed of the Russian naval dock at Vladivostok, and the dock is now being reconstructed with stone procured from the quarries at Tokuyama. The work is being carried on under the superintendence of Russian experts, but it is reported that owing to the large number of Japanese labourers employed in the work it looks more like a Japanese undertaking.

POINTS FOR THE JOCKEY CLUB.

(Daily Press, 4th October)

To-morrow there is the Annual General Meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club. Yesterday, two days before the meeting takes place, seventy-two walters were landed in the Colony, and I have no doubt that the meeting will discuss matters affecting these ponies and their owners, besides other matters connected with racing. Now how are these matters going to be discussed? I venture to suggest that there are a large number of very important points which ought to be dealt with in connection with racing in this Colony, consequent to a large extent upon the introduction of walters. Is the old China hand going to have it all his own way, and are we going to muddle along under conditions which did very well when there were nothing but China ponies, but which will do very badly for walters? Is there any one who is going to make a move and say what he thinks; and if he does, will he be listened to? I sincerely hope that there will be some one. I have, at different times, drawn attention to various points which I have considered important, and it is now my object to give a short *résumé* of those points in the hope that I may suggest one or two that might not be anticipated at the meeting. The Jockey Club has within the last day or two sent round a report. On the debit side there is an item of \$1,109 for tiffins, besides an item of \$230 which the stewards "blow" in one dinner. Now every one knows that you can't have race meetings without tiffin; that would be like a dance without champagne—it won't go off, it would be flat (the dance, I mean). But even if a portion of these amounts were saved for a year or two it would soon pay for the suggested alteration of the $\frac{3}{4}$ mile course; the present one is the worst $\frac{3}{4}$ mile course in the East. Must every good suggestion end in nothing but talk in Hongkong? That is one point for the meeting to consider. Then there is the question of weight per inch. Why should we be different from every one else? It may be too much to ask the old China hand to adopt the Indian scale of 3 lbs. a quarter of an inch straight off, but at all events try and arrange a compromise and make it 2 lbs. per $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and thus teach beginners (i.e., by making it 2 lbs. per $\frac{1}{4}$ inch instead of, say, 4 lbs. per $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or 8 lbs. per inch) the desirability of accurate measuring and the necessity for cleaning and preparing their ponies' hoofs and taking off their shoes before bringing them to be measured and also teach them the difference a pound or two in weight makes in racing anything but a China pony.

My next point is that it would be better to have some rules—some proper rules incorporated in one book—the rules of racing, rules of constitution of the Club, and local rules and conditions all together. At present a man who wants to look up any particular points has to get the Club book of so-called rules. Ruff's Guide, and an old race-book for the conditions and bye-laws; and if he is lucky he may find what he is looking for. Then there is the question of what races are going to be set aside for last year's griffins. It isn't much encouragement for a man to keep a pony for 12 months not knowing at the end of it if there will be a race he can run him in. That is one way to ensure the scarcity of ponies for gymkhanas in the summer complained of in the report just issued. This matter (the fixing of races for last year's griffins) should have been settled before the ponies were put up to auction after last year's meeting and not left till now—if that had been done, a good many more members would probably have kept their ponies instead of letting them go at any prices for hacks. With so many new walter griffins in the Colony it will be impossible to distinguish them for some time unless they are marked or numbered in some way, and I would suggest that the Committee ask the owners to put on their animals a light white square numnah when they are at exercise, with their drawing number marked on each side of the cloth—the number to show below the cantle of the saddle. This is done at race meetings in America and elsewhere, and has been found the best distinguishing mark.

VETERAN.

SPORTING AND OTHER NOTES.

Far be it from me to do otherwise than to urge the cricket material we have got to do their utmost to become efficient in all departments of the game, but isn't the enthusiastic author of the article in your issue of the 25th ult. a little severe when he says that it is hopeless to convince a man who has played cricket since he was ten years old that there is any other game in the world and that other forms of outdoor recreation are aught but flippant pastimes? It may be so—but it's a pity to admit it, and the man who is inculcated with such enthusiasm stands on dangerous ground. Are racing, football, steeple-chasing to be included in the category of flippant pastimes? It seems to me that the most ardent lover of cricket need not be quite so wrapped up in the game as to argue thus. It's the old tale of the foxhunter and the shooter; it has been remarked by the latter that the former as a class are the most inconsiderate and selfish of mortals. Perhaps there is something in it, or at any rate some shooters think so, and some cricketers may go so far as to say cricket is the only game worth playing. But, whilst recommending all cricketers to follow the spirit of the advice of your correspondent, let us "live and let live."

The Gymkhana on the 28th ult. merited a better attendance, as it was quite a good one, and every praise is due to Mr. G. C. C. Master, the Secretary, for the way the arrangements were carried out. There is a good deal more trouble than most people think in getting up a Gymkhana. The $\frac{3}{4}$ mile handicap was won by *Loyalist*, and Mr. Cruickshank rode a well-riden race and was able to make him try to beat *Favourite Rose*, who at the last Gymkhana beat him twice; but on Saturday last one must remember that, instead of *Loyalist* having to give *Favourite Rose* 3 lbs., he was receiving 7 lbs.—a difference of 10 lbs.—moreover the latter got a very bad start on Saturday, so that it is really almost impossible to say which is the better pony of the two. Some of the other events were quite amusing, and the distance handicap was a credit to the handicappers, Messrs. White and Master, as they brought scratch and limit together very well indeed. Mrs. Hawkins won the Ladies' Nomination, and she threw the tennis ball to her nominee, as he galloped past, with great accuracy. Mr. Bishop showed decidedly the best form in tent-pegging and well deserved his win—he was the only competitor who took the peg near the ground, which is a great point, as if the spear pierces the peg near, or better still an inch or so under, the ground it is more easily lifted and there is no chance of its splitting—if taken high up it is, of course, harder to lift and even if it is taken out of the ground probably splits and comes off the spear.

The Commodore's "At Home," which, by the way, was a big success with croquet, tennis and a putting green (the latter great fun), not to forget the ices which were excellent, may have accounted for the poor attendance of the fair sex, as only two or three came on to the Gymkhana and we missed three or four pretty dresses in consequence. Mrs. Powell looked very nice in mauve muslin and mauve orchids in hat, and Miss Powell in pink muslin blouse with lace sailor collar and pink silk baby hat. Mrs. Langlands in white embroidered muslin-trimmed insertion, big blue satin sash and white hat with blue satin bows and pink roses, looked very pretty. Mrs. Playfair was quite smart in black and white figured muslin, black lace and insertions, white chiffon yoke and bell sleeves run with narrow black velvet, and large black and white toreador-shaped hat. Of those who came on to the Gymkhana, the Hon. Mrs. Bertie had on a white lawn dress, trimmed with torchon lace, and carnations in her hat. Mrs. Retallick looked very handsome in a white frieze coat and skirt, and black lace picture hat with pink roses. Miss Hutchings was perfectly charming in pink muslin and black hat, as also her sister in white silk with a blue sash and white hat. At the Gymkhana, Mrs. Rublee had the smartest and prettiest dress on the field and looked sweet in pink and white muslin trimmed with white lace, bolero with lace edge and elbow

sleeves with lace frills, knots of black velvet and belt of narrow rows of black velvet meeting in front, with a hat of pale pink tulle and wreath of tiny pink roses to complete the picture. Mrs. Peter also wore a very pretty dress and looked extremely nice in turquoise blue crepe, trimmed with narrow lace and fancy stitching in blue silk, and lace yoke. Mrs. Jewett had on a beautiful dress of soft white silk, trimmed alternate rows of tuks and insertions over pale pink; ruffle of white chenille. Mrs. Wright wore an awfully pretty white book muslin, trimmed creamy lace appliqué. Miss Jackson in pink muslin, trimmed lace and insertion and narrow black velvet and toque adorned with pink roses, and Miss Hartigan in white spotted muslin with lace flounces and bell sleeves of lace with white hat and pink roses both looked well. Mrs. Hawkins had a smart muslin dress, prettily trimmed with lace, and hat with a wreath of pale blue periwinkles and a black and white silk ruffle.

VETERAN.

CRICKET.

FIRST XII v. THE REST.

On a bowler's wicket and a muggy day, the inaugural match was played on Saturday, 28th September. According to the precedent, majority batted first. The first pair gave promise of a long outing in store for the XII; but this was not fulfilled, as the nominal XXII were out for a total of 117. Hanson, Hopper and Jordan alone scored over 10, the two former hitting hard and the last named playing a strictly defensive innings. At tiffin time the score was 70 for 12 wickets: after that meal and photography, Dorehill went on with lobs, with deadly effect, securing 10 victims for 32 runs. A little dash on the part of the batsmen and an avoidance of on-hitting would have saved many a wicket. But this for future guidance. Prudy, Radcliffe and Atkinson fielded well and brought off good catches, especially Prudy.

When the XII went in to bat about 3 p.m., run-getting was no easy matter, because the field was thickly studded and the bowling not to be despised. Doctor and Grimble bowled most and best: and it would not be surprising if the Parsee gentleman turned out a great bowling acquisition, as he has an easy and taking delivery, bowls left-hand and often comes in from leg. After a few more matches on harder wickets we shall be able to speak more decidedly of the character of his bowling. He has been invited to practice on the H. K. C. C. ground. In all, ten bowlers were tried, so that it is evident that it was impossible to give every one a long turn at trundling; but several were shaped well, E. G. Smyth and Davies, who should, if possible, be tried again next Saturday. Goldring, who kept wicket, showed that he knew his job, but is in want of practice. Gray got rid of Kriekenbeck with an excellent catch hard by the pavilion and Wild made a brilliant catch at point. Some were as conspicuous for good fielding as others were for bad fielding and catch-missing: it was the latter weakness which cost the XXII the game: for no side which misses one batsman four times whilst he is making under a score of runs, deserves or can hope to win. Kriekenbeck, Dorehill, Mackenzie and Mounsey all batted well, and Smyth was alert in the field. Next Saturday it is proposed to pit a Club XI against a XII or XV composed of non-members and new members.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

FIRST XII.

F. Maitland, b Doctor	4
Lt. Kriekenbeck, c Gray, b Doctor	27
Lt. Clifton-Browne, c Smith, b Grimble	2
Lt. Ross, c and b Grimble	7
Pte. Preedy, c Wild, b Letten	3
Capt. Radcliffe, c Humphreys, b Davies	15
Capt. Weymouth, c Jordan, b Davies	8
Major Dorehill, c and b Doctor	17
A. Macenzie, c Goldring, b Grimble	20
K. W. Mounsey, not out	19
J. E. Lee, b Smyth	12
J. M. Atkinson, b Smyth	4
Extras	6

Total 144

THE REST.

B. E. Hanson, c Radcliffe, b Preedy	14
T. J. Wild, b Mackenzie	10
J. H. Smyth, b Preedy	0
E. J. Davies, b Preedy	2
F. Browne, R.E., b Preedy	0
C. Paul Chater, l.b.w., b Mackenzie	0
C. H. P. Hay, c Dorehill, b Mackenzie	7
M. J. Doctor, b Mackenzie	4
A. C. J. Stevens, R.E., b Lee	5
H. M. S. Man, b Lee	3
W. R. Robertson, b Mackenzie	0
P. W. Goldring, c Weymouth, b Lee	21
J. P. Jordan, c Preedy, b Dorehill	21
J. Hooper, run out	18
G. Grimble, c Maitland, b Dorehill	0
Lt. McCleverty, c Atkinson, b Lee	1
L. E. Lammert, c Radcliffe, b Dorehill	0
B. W. Grey, c and b Dorehill	0
J. Brown, c Ross, b Dorehill	2
Corporal Letten, c Preedy, b Lee	0
Grant Smith, c Mackenzie, b Dorehill	0
A. Cunningham, b Lee	1
T. C. Gray, st. Clifton-Browne, b Lee	1
E. J. Libaud, c Mackenzie, b Dorehill	0
A. J. Hawkins, c Preedy, b Dorehill	2
A. Humphreys, c Lee, b Dorehill	1
F. D. Bain, b Dorehill	3
C. G. Danby, c Clifton-Browne, b Lee	1
T. Sercombe Smith, not out	3
Extras	15

Total 117

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

FIRST XII.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Preedy	10	2	24	4
Mackenzie	13	4	21	5
Lee	18.1	6	22	8
Kriekenbeck	3	2	3	—
Dorehill	12	2	32	10

Lee bowled a wide.

THE REST.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Doctor	24	2	46	3
Man	5	1	9	—
Grimble	15	4	22	3
Letten	5	2	7	1
McCleverty	3	—	7	—
Davies	5	1	8	2
Hawkins	4	—	17	—
Wild	1	—	1	—
F. Browne	3	—	9	—
Smyth	1.4	—	11	2

FOOTBALL.

On the 30th ult. six-a-side football ties resulted as follows:—Russell, 1; Danby, 0. Beattie, 1; Kew, 0.

In the six-a-side football competition, Lieut. Stevens's team on the 1st inst. beat McMurtrie's by one goal to nil. On the 2nd inst. Goldring beat Lowe by three goals to two, the former captain scoring all three for his side.

Friday's ties resulted:—Kew, 3; Lowe, 2. Russell, 1; Beattie, 0.

THIRD GYMKHANA MEETING.

Bright weather favoured the third and last Gymkhana Meeting of the season, held on Saturday, 28th ult., on the race-course, Happy Valley. Just about half-past three a shower of rain fell, but it was not heavy and only lasted a few minutes, the sun soon breaking through and dispelling the few clouds that showed up dark against the clear blue of the sky. "Gymkhana weather," however, is a saying whose truth has been so often borne out that it probably would have surprised no one if at the very last moment the meeting had been spoilt by another of the deluges that have so often been responsible for the postponement of previous fixtures. Saturday's attendance was poor, very poor indeed when the excellence of the sport invariably witnessed is considered. Doubtless the cricket match presented a counter attraction that to some was too strong to be resisted, but H.E. the Governor decided to see the last of the gymkhanas, and was again present on Saturday. The drum and fife band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers provided a very enjoyable selection of music. Tea and refreshments, as usual, were supplied.

As to the programme of sports, seven events in all were down for competition—a three-quarter mile race, tent-pegging, bucket and apple race, polo-pony scurry, off-saddling race, ball and bat race, and last, though by no means least, the Eclipse Stakes of 10,000 Copper Cash or cups. The off-saddling race, owing to the darkness, was confined by agreement to one heat instead of three heats. The first event, a three-quarters of a mile handicap, saw all five

start—*Lady Mary*, *Favourite Rose*, *Loyalist*, *Kangaroo*, and *Innocent*. *Kangaroo* was 6lbs. overweight and *Loyalist* 2lbs. All were evenly fancied, *Lady Mary* if anything having the greatest number of backers. *Loyalist*, however, was by some looked upon as a pretty sure winner. The start was not a very good one, *Lady Mary* being almost left at the post. *Kangaroo* took the lead, and was followed closely by *Innocent* and *Loyalist*, *Favourite Rose* being fourth. This order was maintained on the stretch up to the Black Rock, where *Innocent* drew up slightly on *Kangaroo* and was in turn closed in on by *Loyalist*, whose jockey was nursing him well. Down the hill the order of the field was unaltered, save that *Lady Mary* had now taken fourth place from *Favourite Rose*, and was coming on gamely. Entering the straight a ding-dong race ensued between *Kangaroo* and *Loyalist*, which had beaten *Innocent*, the last-named being also passed by *Lady Mary*, *Kangaroo's* jockey was using the whip freely, but the horse was doing its best and could not keep ahead of *Loyalist*, which, ridden splendidly, now shot past on the outside and won easily. The tent-pegging was of very ordinary interest, only one competitor, the winner, succeeding in carrying the peg at each of the three tries allowed by the conditions. The third event, a bucket and apple race, provided great fun for the spectators. Seven buckets, one for each starter, were placed in a row across the track, and half filled with water (possibly by way of an assurance to the competitors, the programme expressly stated that the water was from Tytam). An apple was placed in each pail, and the competitors were to ride up to the buckets and each endeavour to secure an apple with his mouth whilst holding his pony. The two who were first to reach the buckets had too much pace on, and galloped past. The third man, although second to get down on his knees and "duck" for the apple, was almost the last to pass the winning post, the task laid down being not quite so easy of performance as it seemed. Mr. W. A. Cruickshank won. The polo-pony scurry and off-saddling race were followed by the Eclipse Stakes, in which fifteen started. When the bugle that started the race was sounded, an amusing incident was witnessed. A pony ridden by a small boy, after a few preliminary sidlings and backings, began to run round in circles, and kept it up almost till the winner passed the post. The boy preserved a good seat and easily held his erratic mount in hand, though unable to persuade him to pursue a straight course. *Flying Fox* won.

Appended are the official results and times:—

THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE HANDICAP FOR ALL HORSES AND PONIES.—Four to start or the race to be declared void; cup presented by the Hon. C. P. Chater; second to receive \$15.

- 1 Mr. David's *Loyalist*, 1st 1st (Mr. W. A. Cruickshank)
- 2 Capt. Warren's *Kangaroo*, 10st 8lbs. (Major Gwynne)
- 3 Mr. P. A. Cox's *Lady Mary*, 13st 5lbs. (Mr. E. M. Bishop)

- Mr. Lewis' *Innocent*, 9st 8lbs. (Mr. E. C. Pontifex)
- Mr. Gunner's *Favourite Rose*, 11st 5lbs. (Mr. Gegg)

+ 2lbs. overweight.
* 9lbs. overweight.

Time, 1 min. 26 2/5 secs.

TENT PEGGING; THREE RUNS EACH AT A SINGLE PEG.—Points will be given for style and pace; cup presented by Sir Thomas Jackson.

- 1 Mr. E. M. Bishop Mr. A. Campbell MacMillan
- Mr. W. A. Cruickshank
- Mr. P. A. Cox Mr. A. C. Murry
- Major Gwynne Capt. A. L. F. Smith
- Mr. J. Hastings Capt. Warren
- Captain Loring, R.A. Mr. J. Woodgates

BUCKET AND APPLE RACE.—A number of tubs or buckets to be placed in a row, half filled with water from Tytam, with an apple in each; competitors to start dismounted with no saddles; mount, ride to buckets and each endeavour to secure an apple with his mouth whilst holding his pony. Mount with apple in mouth. First past winning post with apple in his mouth wins. Any competitor touching the apple at any time with his hand or any part of his body except the mouth will be disqualified. Six to compete or no event.

1 Mr. W. A. Cruickshank.

2 Mr. E. M. Bishop.

POLO PONY SCURRY.—For *bona fide* polo ponies, the property of playing members of the Polo Club. From quarter-mile post in Owners up. Catch weights, over 11 st 7 lbs. An owner entering more than one pony and riding one himself or unable to ride the weight to be at liberty to ask another playing member of the Polo Club to ride for him. Weights to be raised if necessary to 11 st 12 lbs. Six to start or no race.

1 Mr. W. A. Cruickshank's *Tenacle* (Owner)
2 Mr. R. J. Cumming's *Paddy* ()
3 Hon. T. H. Whitehead's *Guy Fawkes* (Mr. Ball-Aston)

Major A. B. Hamilton's *Quartz* (Owner)
Captain S. Jones' *Ring Off* ()
Captain Warren's *Wallaroo* ()
Hon. T. H. Whitehead's *Bucella* (Major Gwynne)

Time, 29 2 5 secs.

OFF-SADDLING RACE.—Best of three heats start in saddle from somewhere near the mile post with saddle properly girthed with two single girths; first past the post oftenest with saddle in hand and girths attached wins; no contrivances for slipping girths allowed. Six to compete or no event.

1 Mr. A. Campbell Mr. E. M. Bishop
MacMillan Mr. P. A. Cox
2 Mr. E. C. Pontifex Captain Loring, R. A.
Mr. W. A. Cruickshank Captain Warren
Mr. H. A. MacIntyre

THE ECLIPSE STAKES OF 10,000 COPPER CASH OR CUPS FOR FIRST AND SECOND.—Presented by H. N. Mody, Esq. Scratch to start at the mile post. Each competitor sends in name and description of horse or pony to be entered by him with the weight to be carried. Riders are notified that they will be required to weigh out at not less than the specified weights. No objection to be raised to carrying overweight.

1 Mr. MacIntyre's *Flying Fox*, 10st 5lbs 375
2 Capt. Warren's *West Australian*, 11st 7lbs 75
3 Mr. Gunner's *Sir Berys*, 10st 11lbs 35
Mr. P. A. Cox's *La Fleche*, 10st 8lbs Scratch

Mr. Lewis's *Jeddah*, 10st 8lbs 75
Hon. T. H. Whitehead's *Ormonde*, 11st 4lbs 120
Mr. R. M. Cumming's *Manifesto*, 11st 4lbs 130
Mr. C. W. Dickson's *Merry Hampton*, 11st 7lbs 250

Mr. L. J. C. Anderson's *Diamond Jubilee*, 11st 5lbs 270

Capt Jones' *Bend Or*, 11st 5lbs 270
Mr. C. A. Ball Acton's *Gullee More*, 11st 290
Mr. Sugden's *Persimmon*, 5st 6lbs 300
Mr. M. R. C. Nanson's *The Lamb*, 11st 320
Mr. A. B. Garnett's *Orme*, 14st 5lbs 320
Capt. Warren's *Diomed*, 13st 420

THE CHINESE IMPORT DUTIES.

We published on the 26th ult. a copy of a letter on the above subject received by the Honourable Secretary of the China League from the Foreign Secretary. The Honourable Secretary of the China League sends us the following two letters, which continue the correspondence:—

The China League, 15th August, 1901.

MY LORD.—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's letter of 12th August.

With reference to statements made in my letter of the 2nd August, your Lordship draws attention to Articles XVI and XVII of the Treaty of Tientsin. Presumably, XXVI and XXVII are meant.

Reference to my former letters will show your Lordship that the China League has always been careful to admit the justice of China's claim under Article XXVI of the Treaty of Tientsin to an effective 5 per cent. import tariff, but has ventured to insist on the incontestable right of British Traders to an effective Transit Pass System under Article XXVIII in return for increased Import Duties.

The China League is gratified to learn that His Majesty's Government do not differ from it as to the necessity of enforcing this latter clause, and, therefore, leaves the matter in your Lordship's hands with confidence.

The China League is well aware that periodical revision of the Tariff of 1858 is provided

for under Article XXVII of the Treaty of Tientsin, but was unaware that the Chinese Government had given, within six months after the expiry of the fourth decade the formal notice then due in terms of the Article in question.

A precedent for the revision of the Tariff by means of a Treaty may be found in Article XXVI of the Treaty of Tientsin which revises the Tariff fixed by Article X of the Treaty of Nanking on the identical grounds on which revision is called for to-day.

The desirability of the improvement of the approaches of the Peiho and Yangtze Rivers may be great from a local point of view. In expressing its opinion on the inadequacy of such concessions in return for increased import duties, the China League had in mind the interests of the whole commercial community at home and abroad interested in the China Trade.

I would point out that the increased import duties are leviable on the traders of all the Treaty Ports in China, while the benefits according from the conservancy of the Rivers Peiho and Yangtze fall to the traders and landowners of Tientsin and Shanghai alone. If for this reason only, the concession appears to the China League to be inadequate and inappropriate.

I have the honour to be, My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient humble servant.

(Signed) A. R. BURKILL.

Hon. Secretary, China League.

The Most Honourable

The MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, K.G.,

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The China League, 20th August, 1901.

MY LORD.—It has been represented to the China League that some hardship and loss will inevitably fall upon traders in China if, as has been stated, the increased import duties are leviable on all merchandise shipped from hence 10 days after signing of the Protocol.

It is pointed out to the China League that a very large proportion of the import business in China is now carried on by means of "forward contracts," i.e., merchants in China buy from manufacturers and others in Europe goods for delivery on certain specified future dates, six or nine months ahead as the varying conditions of the China markets require; that usually on conclusion of such contracts the foreign merchant sells to the native dealer on similar conditions as to delivery of goods, and the native dealer makes his arrangements to supply his markets in the interior. Further, that as a partial increase in the duty was certainly not expected, and as an increase to 10 per cent. was understood to be contingent on drastic reforms, most of the contracts now running were made on the old basis of duty and loss caused by an increased duty will have to be borne by the foreign merchants.

The raising of the Import Tariff to an effective 5 per cent. means an increase of 3 per cent. in the duty on some classes of fine cotton goods, and if it is to be levied on all outstanding contracts will entail heavy losses.

The fact that the Imperial Government of China require funds to meet obligations imposed upon them as a penalty for their wrong doing, does not justify any unnecessary loss being imposed on British traders.

In presenting these facts, I think the League is justified in asking your Lordship to give every possible consideration to these representations and as full a period of grace for the above described contracts as is consistent with justice and fair dealing.

The principle of the exemption of *bona fide* contracts existing at the time of the imposition of a new duty was admitted, I believe, in the cases of the Silver Duty in India and of the Coal Duties in this country.

In espousing the cause of the China merchants, the League would venture to recall to your Lordship's mind the facts that for many months in 1900 their lives were in danger, that their property has, in many instances, been destroyed, that unmerited losses and curtailment of business have come to everyone in the trade solely and entirely by reason of the indefensible acts of the Imperial Government of China; that, at the moment of imposing extra duties, all the grievances of these merchants against the Chinese remain unremedied and all the

illegal obstacles to and exactions on their trade with the interior remain unrelieved.

I have the honour to be, My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient humble servant,

(Signed) A. R. BURKILL.

Hon. Secretary, China League.

The Most Honourable

The MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, K.G.

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

FINANCES OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

FINANCES OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The Financial Report and Statements for 1900, just laid before the Straits Legislative Council, are signed by Mr. F. G. Penney, the Colonial Treasurer. The actual revenue, as per the year's accounts, was \$5,386,556 against an outlay of \$6,030,740. The revenue was over \$281,430 in excess of the amount estimated, and over \$186,531 in excess of the revenue for 1899.

The heads of revenue which are generally regarded as indicative of the prosperity of the Colony such as land rents, port dues, postage, fees of office, district collections, and revenue stamps show substantial increases over the figures for 1899. Instead of the estimated deficit of \$752,172, there was an actual deficit of \$645,187 on the revenue over expenditure as corrected for arrears, which sum represents the decrease in the credit balance of the Colony, the figures being as follows:—

Balance on 1st Jan. 1900 ... \$2,698,065
Balance on 1st Jan. 1901 ... 2,059,378

Decrease ... \$638,687

Dependencies under assets:—

1st Jan. 1900 ... \$44,000
1st Jan. 1901 ... 38,500

5,500

\$644,187

The cash balances on the 1st Jan., 1901, including the silver held in reserve against currency notes, amounted to \$4,967,643.48. Deducting the amount of the silver reserve (\$4,303,913.11) the balance was \$663,730.37, which is less than the balance of the previous year by \$48,152.

This balance does not include copper coin to the value of \$99,650 for which a separate account is kept.

The value of Government currency notes in circulation at the close of 1900 was \$6,205,000 as compared with \$4,165,000 for the preceding year. The average monthly circulation for the past two years has been \$2,330,555 and \$5,500,250 respectively. The coin reserve had risen from \$2,777,000 to \$4,403,913. The average monthly circulation of the local Banks for 1899 and 1900 was:—1899, \$8,082,210; 1900, \$6,713,132. The decrease is mainly due to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation steadily withdrawing its local issue. The value of the British dollars imported by the local Banks in 1899 and 1900 respectively was as follows:—1899, \$29,349,735, 1900, 21,571,448.

The report urges an increase in the establishment of the accountant's department to overtake arrears of work.

The Straits correspondent of the *Echo de Chine*, writing under date 29th August, says:—The *Woodcock* has been here for four or five days with the British Consul from Chungking, who has already left for Puchan. It is the intention to take the boat up as far as Kiating, a distance of about 150 kilometres, but the navigation is more difficult than that of the main river because of the caprices of the stream (Fuho), whose banks of sand change incessantly. From Kiating the party will return to Chentu by land.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company are advertising their passenger programme for the next season. The s.s. *Oriental*, leaving on 29th March, 1902, and the *Malta* leaving on 12th April, will proceed through to London direct via Colombo, without transshipment. The *Oriental*, is a sister ship to the *Peninsular*, and is a great favourite with the Indian passengers, having been specially designed for tropical waters; while the *Malta* is a vessel of over 6,000 tons, built five years ago, and has very comfortable accommodation. The steamers will no doubt be well patronised.

HONGKONG.

A Chinese workman fell down the hold of the steamer *Tai On* in the docks on Saturday, the 28th ult., and was killed.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week were 312 non-Chinese and 111 Chinese to the former institution, 124 non-Chinese and 1,834 Chinese to the latter.

We understand that the Hon. Meigh Goodman, Attorney-General, will return to the Colony about the beginning of December next. He will leave London on the 31st inst.

We are glad to note that the Public Works Department is at last waking up to the necessity of condemning and pulling down buildings unsafe for human habitation, as is shown in the case of the two-storied buildings Nos 99 and 101 Wellington Street, formerly occupied by Cassum Mahomed & Co., drapers and milliners.

The new rickshas for Europeans made their first appearance in Queen's Road on Friday afternoon. They certainly look better than the old ones. They are neatly japanned and cushioned, and the bottom is covered by a piece of linoleum. They also have side flaps and decent aprons without holes, something not easy to find in the old rickshas. The drivers are clad in black, the whole turnout being rather sombre.

The first round of the billiard tournament at the Soldiers' Club between the Royal Garrison Artillery and the Hongkong Police, which commenced on Thursday afternoon, has resulted as follows:—Corporal Dan, R.G.A., beat P. S. Brazil; P. S. Quinn beat Corporal Griffiths, R.G.A.; Company Q.-M. Sergeant Beasley, R.G.A., beat P. S. Earner; P. C. Pitt beat Bomr. Holloway, R.G.A. P. C. Pitt played a fine exhibition game, and made the highest break of the evening—33.

A painful incident occurred on Saturday, the 28th ult., at Laichikok. A number of Portuguese children were bathing, and after they left the water it was noticed that one was missing. Mr. Farmer, of the Victoria Hotel, was passing in a launch, and, being appealed to, went into the water to search for the missing boy. He found him quite dead, in about four feet of water. The unfortunate little fellow was nine years of age, and was the son of the late Mr. Leon, secretary to Messrs. Campbell, Moore and Company, who died during the plague epidemic.

From the return of deaths in the Colony during August it appears that 39 members of the European and foreign community (32 civilians, 7 soldiers) and 475 Chinese died in the course of the month. 96 deaths were due to chest-affections and 93 to fevers, of which plague claimed 44 and malaria 43. 112 of the Chinese deaths were in No. 2 district, 52 in the Harbour, and 48 in No. 9 district. The principal deaths rates were:—British and foreign community 41.1 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese community, Victoria, land 22.7, harbour 28.4; Chinese, whole Colony, 20.3, boat 24.7, land and boat 20.9; total civil community 21.5.

We deeply regret to record the death on the 27th ult. of Mr. Robert Cooke, Acting Chief Manager of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co. The deceased gentleman had over two score years' experience with the Company. Before joining the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., he was manager of a slip at West Point owned at that time by Mr. Sanders, an American. Only on the 5th January this year a presentation was made to Mr. Cook by the European members of the Dock Co.'s staff as a souvenir of New Year, 1901. The heartiest good-wishes were then expressed by Mr. Rutter, who spoke on behalf of the staff. Outside his work, moreover, Mr. Cooke was well known and highly respected. The funeral took place yesterday, when in spite of the suddenness of Mr. Cooke's death and the consequent short notice of the ceremony a very large number of mourners attended. Floral tributes were very numerous, showing the love and respect in which deceased was held by a large circle of friends. Four of the directors of the Dock Company were present at the funeral—the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Messrs. H. P. White and D. E. Brown—as well as the new chief manager, Mr. W. B. Dixon. The directors sent a wreath, the European staff of the company another, and the Chinese employees nearly a dozen, in addition to what were given by private friends.

The hospital hulk *Hygeia* is to be used in future for a quarantine vessel for passengers under examination.

Company Sergeant-Major W. Nicholson has been appointed a supernumerary lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

The manager of the Star Coffee House, D'Aguilar Street, a Scottish American named McPherson, has disappeared with \$150 belonging to the institution.

Major-General Sir William Gascoigne, C.M.G., and Lady Gascoigne were among the passengers returning to Hongkong on the 1st inst. on the *Empress of China*.

Sir John Carrington, C.M.G., who, with Miss Carrington, returned to the Colony yesterday by the *Empress of China*, has we learn, obtained an extension of leave by six months.

The billiard handicap of 250 points up, held at the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders, resulted in Mr. J. W. Kinghorn winning the first and Mr. A. Ritchie the second prize. The prizes will be presented at the next monthly "smoker."

Three fresh Chinese plague cases, two fatal, were reported since our last weekly issue. The previous week's figures were:—Three cases (one in Victoria), three deaths. There was one other instance of communicable disease, a case of enteric fever in Victoria, the sufferer being a Chinese.

About 9.30 on Saturday, the 28th ult., two K.loon ferry launches had an unfortunate collision in the Harbour. The *Rising Star*, an old launch, ran into the *Morning Star* (double-ender). As is usually the case, a sampan got in the way, and while successfully avoiding it, the *Rising Star* ran into the double-ender. Both launches are said to have been considerably damaged.

Just after 9.30 p.m., the 28th ult., a little excitement was caused by No. 1 Police Launch charging the Praya wall immediately to the west of Blake Pier. The launch was attempting to come alongside the Pier, but apparently the engines refused to reverse and the launch rammed the wall while there was still plenty of way on her. Fortunately all the sampans had time to get out of the way, and apparently the launch was uninjured, while the wall was not damaged at all.

A correspondent writes to point out that whereas we said in our leading article on the Census that in Tsimshatsui promontory 53 children, American and English, there are under the age of 15, which is "a significantly eloquent testimony of the want of a purely European school in that part of the Colony," there is a purely European school there under the direction of the Italian Convent, with children numbering from 25 to 30. Of course the Italian Convent school is an elementary school of the voluntary and denominational class, whereas we were referring to the need of a Government school capable of imparting instruction to children of a more advanced age than those going to the school mentioned by our correspondent.

H.M.S. *Argonaut*, which experienced a severe typhoon on her way down from Nagasaki, as previously reported in these columns, went into dock on the 2nd inst. at Kowloon. When the *Argonaut* arrived in harbour, on the 21st ult., she had four feet of water in her. It is feared that she will have to be sent to Malta to be thoroughly overhauled.

H.M.S. *Ocean* arrived on 27th ult. from Weihaiwei, which she left on the 22nd ult. Rear-Admiral the Hon. A. G. Curzon Howe, C.B., C.M.G., relinquished his command and left for England by the P. & O. s.s. *Chusan* on the 28th ult.

H. M. storeship *Humber* left on the 28th ult. for Shanghai. The French transport *Nire* arrived on the same day from Tonkin.

On the 30th ult. the German gunboat *Illis* left for Canton, and the U.S. monitor *Monterey* went into dock at Kowloon.

H.M.S. *Rosario*, which arrived on the 2nd inst. from Singapore en route to Weihaiwei, where she will probably winter, returned to Singapore from the Cocos Islands on the 21st ult.

The steamer *Bamberg* arrived on the 3rd inst. and discharged 72 Water subscription griffins ordered through Mr. Abrams of Singapore for the Hongkong Jockey Club.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Sub-Lieuts. J. Jones to the *Pigmy*, and R. G. Hamond to the *Goliath*, to date 12th August.

The *Universal Gazette* says that inasmuch as the Chinese Army and Navy in the North have now no ports which they can use, it is proposed that the Northern Fleet be amalgamated with the Southern Fleet, but the Southern Viceroy's object because they have no money. Hence the number of the crews has been greatly lessened.

The funeral of the late Mr. J. J. Francis K.C., took place at Yokohama on Monday afternoon, the 23rd ult. A burial service was performed, the Rev. Father Pettier officiating, at the Roman Catholic Church, and the cortege thence preceded to the foreign cemetery, where the final ceremony took place. The pall-bearers were Mr. A. M. Chalmers, H.B.M.'s Acting-Consul, Messrs. Jas. Walter, J. F. Lowder, E. Beart, D. Jackson, E. M. Janion. Among the mourners were Sir John Carrington, C.M.G., Sir William Gary; members of the legal profession in Yokohama, and leading residents.

Large importations of sugar into Japan have been made lately on speculation in connection with the new duties. It is stated in Japanese papers that, while foreign merchants have not been doing much in this direction, the Japanese in Yokohama and Kobe will have brought in, before the impost occurs, about 100,000 bags from Germany and Hungary, 210,000 bags through a foreign firm to Hongkong, together of an estimated value of 2,800,000 yen, and some 200,000 bags from a Hongkong Sugar Refining Company. It is anticipated that the Japanese Government will begin to draw revenue from the new duty after the lapse of about three months.

There appears to be some complication, says the *Japan Mail*, connected with the building of the Seoul-Fusan Railway. The Korean Government is represented as desiring to have the gauge altered from the medium to the narrow, and it is of course surmised that this requisition is prompted by Russia, who wishes to make the gauge uniform with that of her own Manchurian system. We really do not see why the Japanese should be solicitous about this matter. If any sinister purpose be connected with the adoption of the narrow gauge, the choice might be expected to turn to Japan's advantage no less than to Russia's. From an economical point of view it is evidently desirable that the whole Korean system should be of the same gauge, and though experience has proved that the medium gauge is best, it is by no means certain that its technical advantages would outweigh the obvious utility of uniformity between the Manchurian and the Korean roads.

Sir James Lyle Mackay, K.C.I.B., whom we are to have in our midst shortly, is well known in India, having been a partner in the firm of Mackinnon, Mackenzie, and Co., Calcutta. As his name implies, he is a Scotchman, born at Arbroath, in Forfarshire, in 1852. He has been a member of the Legislative Council of the Viceroy of India, and President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and he is a member of the Council of India. At present he resides in London, where he is a director of the British India Steam Navigation Company. Mr. Henry Cockburn, C.B., who is now at home, will doubtless accompany him to China, and we could have wished that, as he can ill be spared from Peking, Mr. Byron Brennan had been appointed in his place. A better selection than that of Mr. Dudgeon could not have been made. There need be no surprise at the name of Mr. J. W. Jamieson, Commercial Attaché, not appearing on this list when it is remembered that his appointment is a peripatetic one and the Foreign Office could not well take him from his present duties to put him on a task which may occupy some months. The work of the Commission, we understand, will be the settlement of the specific, which are to take the place of the new *ad valorem* duties, and of the changes necessitated by Article XI of the Peace Protocol. This includes treaties of commerce and navigation, and commercial relations, and the schemes for the amelioration of the Peiho and Huangpu rivers.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

Lieutenant C. D. Hitchins, 19th Bombay Infantry, who has been on service with the 22nd Bombay Infantry in China, has qualified for admission to the Indian Staff Corps.

The Korean Government proposes to build a new palace for the Empress. It is rumoured that the necessary funds will be secretly provided by the Russian and the French Governments.

When the two new ferry-boats, which are being built in Hongkong for the Federated Malay States Railway, arrive, the service between Penang and Prye will be doubled, two boats being kept continually on the run and two in reserve.

L'Echo de Chine's Manchurian correspondent says that the brigands continue to ravage the country in the province of Tsitsikar. They even attempted to surprise the Russian troops three leagues from Pai-en-susu. The Russian railway is in operation from Harbin to New-chwang.

With the capture of Insurgent General Lucban's private correspondence on the island of Samar, the fact has transpired that the most prominent citizens of Catbalogan, the principal city on the island, and the most demonstrative friends to all appearance of the American Government, are in reality firm adherents of the rebellion, secretly aiding it to the utmost of their power. Thirteen arrests have been made so far.

The Straits Settlements Association, in July last, wrote to the Secretary of State that it was highly desirable on political grounds for a regiment of Europeans to be stationed in the Colony. In August, it was intimated by the War Office that the Under-Secretary of State for War (Mr. Brodrick) had no intention of permanently withdrawing the British battalion from Singapore, and that the native troops will be in addition to, and not in substitution for, the British troops.

The Manchu officials in charge of repairs on the palaces and palace gates are making hay while the sun shines, wrote the Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* on the 15th ult. The improvements are rapidly progressing and certainly indicate that the Court will return. The remnants of the tower over the Chienmen, or main front gate of the Tartar City, have been removed. We hear that no new tower will be erected, as foreigners hold the wall from this gate to the Hatamen, the Americans and Germans holding the position, and putting up guard-houses on the wall, where a foreign promenade is being made. The effect on the *fengshui* no one dares to think of. The Honmen, or main back gate of the Imperial City, having been destroyed by the Japanese, will also, I believe, not be re-erected. The entrance to Imperial precincts will now begin with the Tachingmen. Probably all the portion beyond will be closed to foreigners, as in the old days.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 5th October.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—The upward tendency continues, large demands having come forward.

Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.68 to \$8.72 pel.
do. " 2, White.....	7.75 to 7.80 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	7.10 to 7.15 "
do. " 2, Brown	5.95 to 6.00 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.55 to 8.60 "
do. " 1, White.....	7.65 to 7.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown	5.90 to 5.95 "
do. " 2, Brown	5.75 to 5.80 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.50 to 12.55 "
Shekloong "	10.80 to 10.85 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 5th October.—Prices are further advancing, the market being brisk. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.80 to 2.85
" Round, Good quality	3.95 to 4.00
" Long	4.15 to 4.20
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.90 to 2.95
" Garden, " No. 1	3.65 to 3.70
" White.....	4.20 to 4.25
" Fine Cargo	4.35 to 4.40

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Oceanien*, sailed on the 26th August. For Marseilles:—105 bales raw silk, 10 cases silks, 15 pkgs. tea. For Lyons:—484 bales raw silk, 1 bale waste silk. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk. For London:—50 bales raw silk. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Havre:—19 cases taper.

Per Imperial German Mail steamer *Prinzess Irene*, sailed on the 5th September. For Aden: 250 bags sugar. For Odessa:—20 bales canes. For Trieste:—50 bales rattanshavings. For Genoa and/or Hamburg:—130 bales canes. For Genoa:—200 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk, 1 box silkpiecgoods. For Antwerp:—11 boxes Chinaware. For Antwerp and/or Hamburg and/or London:—15 boxes cassia buds. For Amsterdam:—290 boxes ginger, 110 cases preserves, 6 pkgs. tobacco. For Amsterdam and/or Rotterdam:—600 cases preserves. For Rotterdam:—46 bales canes. For Bremen:—158 rolls matting, 2 boxes China ink. For London:—11 boxes Chinaware, 2 boxes feathers. For Hamburg:—50 cases humanhair, 20 bundles camphorwood, 10 cases preserves, 6 casks ginger, 1 box feathers, 1 box grasscloth. For Copenhagen:—250 boxes cassia, 1 case cigars.

Per P. & O. steamer *Banca*, sailed on the 7th September. For London opt. Glasgow:—250 casks ginger. For London opt. Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For London opt. Goole:—100 bales waste silk, 134 bales pierced cocoons. For Glasgow:—9 cases woodware. For Manchester:—400 bales waste silk. For London:—4 cases cigars from Manila, 1 case gogo from Manila, 5,020 boxes tea=105,420 lbs., 15 cases woodware, 3 cases Chinaware, 14 cases black-woodware, 1 case silks, 63 pkgs. rattan chairs, 2 cases feathers, 1 bale rope, 6 cases curios, 2 cases pictures, 1 box clothing, 48 chests turkey opium. For Marseilles:—400 bales hemp from Manila, 250 bales waste silk, 20 cases essentail oil, 24 cases Chinaware.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th October.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay* Yarn: 1,600 bales No. 10 at \$33.50 to \$34, 800 bales No. 12 at \$34.50 to \$35, 400 bales No. 16 at \$35 to \$36, 1,600 bales No. 20 at \$109 to \$114.50. *Grey Shirtings*: 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.97½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.97½. *Mexican*: 750 pieces 32 Gold Dragon at \$2.80, 600 pieces 36 Gold Dragon at \$3.07½, 600 pieces 36 Stag Hunter at \$3.32½.

METAL.—*Yunnan Lead*: 60 piculs at \$66. *Wire Nail Iron*: 240 piculs at \$9.75 to arrive.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$75.00 to \$113.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
8.4 lbs.	2.80 to 3.40
9 to 10 lbs.	3.45 to 4.55
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35 to 2.60
58 to 60 "	3.05 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.05 to 5.60
Fine	5.15 to 7.45
Book-folds	4.15 to 6.15
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ")	1.85 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.82½ to 2.02½
7lbs. (32 ")	2.72½ to 3.20
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.80 to 3.40
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.00 to 6.80

FANCY COTTONS.

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.45 to 3.50
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Brocades—Dyed

Chintzes—Assorted	per yard
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.26

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk

WOODENS.

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.62½ to 1.70
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00

Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.35 to 8.10
Assorted.....	6.45 to 8.20
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.00 to 31.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } Assorted }	11.00 to 17.00

Orleans—Plain

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.

METALS.—

Iron—Nail Rod

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.

Swedish Bar

Small Round Rod

Hoop ½ to 1½ in.

Wire 15/25

Old Wire Rope

Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop

Australian

Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.

Vivian's 14/20 oz.

Elliot's 14/20 oz.

Composition Nails.....

Japan Copper, Slabs.....

Tin.....

Tin-Plates

Steel ½ to ¾

New Chops 14/20 oz.

UNDRIES.—

Quicksilver

Window Glass

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 4th October.—The activity in our market referred to in our report of the 27th September has been maintained during the interval under review, and we close with increased firmness for the leading stocks.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been sold at \$607½, \$610, and \$612½, and more shares can probably be placed at the higher rate. Nationals have sellers at \$28. Bank of Chinas unchanged.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in request at \$342½. Cantons are enquired for at \$167½. Yangtszes are wanted at \$120. North Chinas can be placed at Tls. 190.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires are wanted at \$342½. China Fires have been placed at \$83.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are wanted at \$34½. Indo-Chinas have continued to advance, and are now wanted at \$142. Douglases have improved to \$45 ex dividend of \$3 paid on the 1st instant, and are wanted. China Manilas continue neglected at \$58 sellers. Star Ferries have sold and continue in request at \$24½ (old) and \$9½ (new). Shell Transports sold at £2. 10s.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have declined slightly, and are now obtainable at \$150. Luzons have further receded to \$34 with sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms are on offer at \$5. Queen Mines are quiet at 4 cents. Jelebus are on offer at \$5½. Raubs have improved to \$14, at which there are buyers.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have steadily advanced during the week, and can now be placed at \$290. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are steady at \$99 with some small parcels offering. New Amoy Docks are quiet, and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been in active demand, and are in strong request at \$193. Holders are firm, however, and but few shares are forthcoming. Kowloon Lands are quiet at \$31½. West Points have sold at \$55 and can now be placed at \$56. Hongkong Hotels have been done at \$127 and \$128, and are in demand at the higher figure. Oriente Hotels are quiet at \$55. Humphreys Estates can be had at \$13½.

COTTON MILLS.—We have no changes to report in quotations for the northern mills. Hongkong Cottons have improved to \$12, at which shares are wanted.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements are wanted at \$21½. Watsons continue in request at \$15½. Electrics (old) can be placed at \$12½. Hongkong Ropes are quiet at \$172½. Ices have buyers at \$183. Tramways are wanted at \$275. China Providents have sold at \$94 and are still obtainable. Watkins are quiet at \$10. Alhambra Cigars have further declined to \$750 with sellers.

MEMOS.—Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 10th instant. Canton Insurance Office, Ltd., ordinary general meeting on the 17th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ 612½, buyers. L'don, £61. 10s.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	15s.
Do. deferred	£1	25. 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$28, sellers
B. Shares	£8	\$28, sellers
Foun. Shares	£1	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	£1	\$1.10.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power		
Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M...	\$10	\$9½, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$150, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	\$500	\$750, sellers
Philippine Tobacco	\$50	\$50, nominal.
Invest. Co., Ltd.)		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, buyers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 35, buyers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 42½, buyers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 260.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 11.
Hongkong	\$100	\$12, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$21½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric.	\$5	\$12½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$275, buyers
Hk. Steam Water		
boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$128, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$183, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G...	\$50	\$19, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$172½.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$20, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$167½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$83, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$60, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$342½, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 100, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$342½, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$120, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$195, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$13½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$31½.
West Point Building	\$50	\$58, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$34, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$325.
Jelebu	\$5	\$5½, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	4 cents
Olivers Mines, A...	\$5	nominal.
Do. B...	\$4½	nominal.
Punjom	\$9	\$5, sellers
Do. Perference...	\$1	\$1½.
Rauhs	18	\$14, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$25.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$55.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$58, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$10, buyers
Do. Ordinary	£7.10	£7. 10s., sellers
Do. Bonus	£5	£5, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$45, ex div., buys.
H. Canton and M...	\$15	\$34½, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$142, buyers
Shell Transport and		
Trading Co.	\$1	\$2. 10s. 6d., sales
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$21½, sales & bys. { \$9½, buyers
Teban Planting Co...	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$10, sellers
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading	\$5	\$19½, buyers
Co., Ltd.		
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	nominal.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10.
Wa son & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15½, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, brokers.

SHANGHAI, 2nd October (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—INSURANCE.—Fires. Chinas are wanted. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. A firm demand for shares brought up cash rates to Tls. 101, market closing firm at this rate. Forward sales are reported at 100 to 103 for 31st inst.; 103, 103.50 and 104 for November; 102, 103, 105.50 and 106 for December; and \$145 for December from Hongkong and 108 for February. SUGARS.—China Sugar market has been active; local transactions are given at 156, 159 and 157 for December; shares are now on offer. Peraks have sellers at Tls. 72.50 and buyers at 70. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares receded to Tls. 9.60, at which rate further shares are for sale. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Limited. Shares were freely taken at Tls. 237.50 and 240, market closing firm with sales at 242.50. Settlements took place for 31st inst. at 242.50, November 247.50, December 247.50 and 250, January 252.50, February 255. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. cash shares were placed at Tls. 290 and are in request. LANDS.—Shanghai are quiet. INDUSTRIAL.—Ewo Cotton Mill shares were placed at Tls. 40 and Internationals at Tls. 32.50. Ices were taken at Tls. 32. Flours changed hands at Tls. 43. Pulp & Paper Mills sold at Tls. 100 to 103 and are in further request. December shares were taken at Tls. 106 and more are wanted. Moutries were purchased at \$53 (ex div.). TUGS & CARGO BOATS.—Shanghai and Co-operative Cargo Boats Co.'s, Limited. A general meeting of shareholders is called for 10th inst. for the transaction of formal business. MISCELLANEOUS.—Waterworks shares are wanted. Langkat Tobacco Co. Shares changed hands at Tls. 310 cash and are in request. Settlements took place at Tls. 312.50 and 315 for October, 325 for December and January. Sumatra Tobacco market is quiet. Llewellyn and Co. shares are wanted. Astor Hotels are quiet. DEBENTURES.—Nothing is doing.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 5th October.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.43
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.46
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.96
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	46½
Credits, 60 days' sight	47½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	144
Bank, on demand	144½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	144
Bank, on demand	144½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	53
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	4 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	117½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	14
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.28
GOLP LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53.5
BAR SILVER per oz.	26½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Hakata Maru (str.).
FOR LONDON.—Palawan (str.), Formosa (str.), Pyrrhus (str.), Calchas (str.), Ajax (str.), Nestor (str.), Machaon (str.), Hakata Maru (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Ulysses (str.), Dardanus (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Natal (str.), Hakata Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Hamburg (str.), Königsberg (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Königsberg (str.), Segovia (str.), Suevia (str.), Arabia (str.), Bamberg (str.), Marburg (str.).
FOR TRIESTE.—Trieste (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Queen Adelaide (str.), Kinshu Maru (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Tartar (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Hongkong Maru (str.), Alga (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—State of Maine (str.), Satsuma (str.), Claverdale (str.), Longships (str.), Manuel Llaguno, Adana (str.), Asama (str.).
FOR SAN DIEGO.—Strathgyle (str.).
FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—Indrapura (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Chingtu (str.), Yawata Maru (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALOUTTA.—Kumsang (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—Tientsin (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Kagoshima Maru (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—Bormida (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

September—

27, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
28, Anping, British str., from Shanghai.
28, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
28, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
28, Kaisow, British str., from Shanghai.
28, Maidurn Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
28, Nanshan, U.S. storeship, from Chefoo.
28, Nive, French cruiser, from Tonkin.
28, Perla, British str., from Manila.
28, Tsinan, British str., from Australia.
29, Airlie, British str., from Japan.
29, Anapa, British str., from New York.
29, Cebu, American str., from Iloilo.
29, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
29, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
29, Indrapura, British str., from Portland.
29, Loksang, British str., from Canton.
29, Pronto, German str., from Saigon.
29, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
29, Dr. H. J. Kiser, Norw. str., from Sarawak.
29, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
29, Tingsang, British str., from Saigon.
30, Amigo, German str., from Canton.
30, Benlarig, British str., from Moji.
30, Chigwell, British str., from Borneo.
30, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
30, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
30, Nanchang, British str., from N'chwang.
30, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
30, Pax, Belgian str., from Saigon.
30, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Moji.
30, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Samarang.

October—

1, Ajax, British str., from Shanghai.
1, Empress of China, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
1, Haiching, British str., from Tamsui.
1, Preussen, German str., from Shanghai.
1, Queen Adelaide, British str., from Dalny.
1, Tailee, German str., from Saigon.
1, Tientsin, British str., from Bombay.
2, Anping, British str., from Canton.
2, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
2, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
2, Daphne, German str., from Nagasaki.
2, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
2, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., from S. F. cisco.
2, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
2, Lucia, British barque, from Rajang.
2, Marie Jebsen, German str., from Saigon.
2, Rosario, British sloop, from Singapore.
2, Sachsen, German str., from Hamburg.
2, Sanuki Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
2, Socotra, British str., from London.
2, Taifu, German str., from Newchwang.
2, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
3, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Moji.
3, Arabia, German str., from Foochow.
3, Bamberg, German str., from Hamburg.
3, Choyssang, British str., from Shanghai.
3, Daybreak, Amr. str., from Shanghai.
3, Formosa, British str., from Foochow.
3, Hans Menzell, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
3, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
3, Nanshan, British str., from Holsichang.

- 4, Friant, French cruiser, from Amoy.
 4, Hansa, German str., from Manila.
 4, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 4, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 4, Taicheong, German str., from Manila.
 4, Taichio, German str., from Bangkok.
 4, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
 4, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 4, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 5, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 5, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
 5, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
 5, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 5, Yedo Maru, Jap. str., from Chefoo.
 5, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
 5, Arethusa, British cruiser, from Shanghai.
 5, Glengyle, British str., from Shanghai.
 5, Chinglu, British str., from Moji.
 5, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
 5, Hailong, British str., from Haiphong.
 6, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 6, Kutsang, British str., from Saigon.
 6, Kwongsang, British str., from N'chwang.
 6, Natal, French str., from Shanghai.

September—DEPARTURES.

- 28, Anping, British str., for Canton.
 28, Australian, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Charterhouse, British str., for Saigon.
 28, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 28, Eridan, French str., for Taku.
 28, Humber, H.M.'s storeship, for Shanghai.
 28, Kiakiang, British str., for Tientsin.
 28, Kohsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
 28, Mojol, British str., for Singapore.
 28, Robt. Dickinson, Brit. str., for Hankow.
 28, Taksang, British str., for Bangkok.
 28, Teenkai, British str., for Seattle.
 29, Changsha, British str., for Chefoo.
 29, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 29, Loosok, German str., for Swatow.
 29, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 29, Phranang, German str., for Hoihow.
 29, Progress, German str., for Chefoo.
 29, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Anapa, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Hailong, British str., for Haiphong.
 30, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 30, Iltis, German gunboat, for Canton.
 30, Kaisow, British str., for Singapore.
 30, Peluse, British str., for Canton.
 30, Woosung, British str., for Canton.

October—

- 1, Amigo, German str., for Swatow.
 1, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for Karatsu.
 1, Clara, German str., for Pakhoi.
 1, Fushun, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Germania, German str., for Bangkok.
 1, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 1, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
 1, Olympia, American str., for Tacoma.
 1, Susquehanna, Amr. ship, for New York.
 2, Deuteros, German str., for Swatow.
 2, Gaelic, British str., for San Francisco.
 2, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Hue, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
 2, Loksang, British str., for Tientsin.
 2, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 2, Maidsuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 2, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 2, Nive, French cruiser, for Taku.
 2, Perla, British str., for Manila.
 2, Phra C. C. Klao, Ger. str., for Swatow.
 2, Tainan, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Airlie, British str., for Australia.
 3, Ajax, British str., for London.
 3, Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 3, Daybreak, American str., for Canton.
 3, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
 3, Preussen, German str., for Europe.
 3, Sachsen, German str., for Shanghai.
 3, Taifu, German str., for Canton.
 4, Chigwell, British str., for Balik Papan.
 4, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 4, Chowtai, German str., for Swatow.
 4, Glenfarg, British str., for Moji.
 4, Sanuki Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 4, Socotra, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Sungkiang, British str., for Haiphong.
 5, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 5, Arabia, German str., for Hamburg.
 5, Elsa, German str., for Hongay.
 5, Formosa, British str., for London.
 5, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Hansa, German str., for Saigon.
 5, I. F. Chapman, Amr. ship, for New York.

- 5, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 5, L. Schepp, Amr. ship, for New York.
 5, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 5, Kong Beng, German str., for Swatow.
 5, Woosung, British str., for Ningpo.
 6, Ailsa Craig, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 6, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 6, Emma Luyken, German str., for Saigon.
 6, Glengyle, British str., for New York.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Tainan*, from Australia, Mrs. Santos, Miss Taylor, Miss Moore, Miss Fraser, Dr. Rabelle, Messrs. Hendrie, Detrich, Ferguson, Langford, McFarlane and Sergeant Taylor.

Per *Chusan*, from Yokohama, Mr. Hallam, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Inglis and Misses Inglis, Messrs. James Chase, A. Bastein and M. Flom.

Per *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, Major-General Sir Wm. and Lady Gascoigne, Mrs. C. Stanley, Mrs. Twining, Mrs. G. P. Lammert, Mrs. H. T. Wilgress and two sons, Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Chambers, Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Fulton and three children, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Aitken, Miss J. E. Fraiham, Miss May Hinton, Dr. J. A. Maginn, Messrs. H. G. St. Dalmas, R. Healey and C. E. Maginn; from Yokohama, Mrs. Brutton and daughter, Capt. and Mrs. Pryne, Lieut. and Mrs. Bagnall Wild, Sir J. W. Carrington and Miss Carrington, Dr. Lang and Mr. G. P. Lammert; from Kobe, Dr. and Mrs. Boyd and infant, Major King, Capt. Cruickshank and Clapham, Lieut. Coulfield, Messrs. Domniche and Otto Spadow; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Hutton Potts and two children, Messrs. A. A. Campbell and Z. Nagata; from Shanghai, Mrs. R. J. Cuning, Mrs. Grant and two children, Mrs. Anderson, Messrs. S. A. Knappe, A. Haimon, A. von Stockhausen, E. Jonah, W. J. Wright, Hall Brutton, A. R. Lowe, D. Gillies and G. M. Young.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, from Hongkong, from Moji, Misses A. Harrison, E. D. Thomas, S. Ogawa, Messrs. W. Pucher and I. Nakasawa; for Singapore, Mr. A. F. Worthington; for Colombo, Mr. T. Ibukiyama; for Marseilles, Mr. H. Uchimura; for London, Mr. Suzuki, Rev. S. Peake and Rev. H. Firkins.

Per *Preussen*, from Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs. Jessem, Messrs. Whitney, Daniels, von Protha, Hoppenberg, Ito and Arina; from Kobe, Mr. V. Lemerenz, Misses Okume and Omia; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Gidley, Misses Butterlain and Müller, Messrs. Davis, Johnson, Gidley, Johnsen and Mrs. Kinoshita; from Shanghai, Mrs. Portaria, Messrs. Damson, Molinaho, Aronoviri, Schwartz, Baldi, D'Agostini, Zenetti, Scarpo, Goldberg, Platanagist, Andrantyo, Wakeham, Dannenberg, Gutierrez, Brillianton and Perade.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hamburg, for Hongkong, Mr. Heinrich Varrelmann; for Shanghai, Rev. Knud S. Stokke and Mr. Johann Wenck; from Southampton, for Hongkong, Mrs. Kate Ramsey, Mr. and Mrs. H. Frewin, Miss Macfarlane and Mr. Mumford and family; for Shanghai, Mrs. Dewar and child, Miss Caplin, Miss A. Ford, Dr. E. C. Davenport, Messrs. W. E. Burnet and D. Robertson; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Webb; from Genoa, for Hongkong, Dr. and Mrs. John E. Kühne, Mr. Hans Kühne, Misses Bertha Kühne, Edy Kühne, Johanna Kühne, Messrs. Diakon Baumann and Carl Diener; for Shanghai, Mrs. von Möllendorf, Misses Eva von Möllendorf, Margaretha von Möllendorf and Dora von Möllendorf, Dr. Stuhlmann and Mr. Stabszahlmeister Ross; for Tsingtau, Mr. Albert Pfeiffer; for Kobe, Miss Anna Barth; for Yokohama, Mr. Riccardo Giglio-Tos.

Per *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. H. A. Burke and infant, Mrs. Humphreys, Mrs. C. M. Johnston, Mrs. L. Johnstone, Mrs. B. M. Lamont, Mrs. V. Latham, Mrs. A. W. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Manuel, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Steele and Miss E. Steele, Miss E. Hager, Miss A. Hager, Dr. P. Kreig, Messrs. H. W. Andrews, H. Humphreys and J. L. Upham.

Per *Nanshan*, from Saigon, Mrs. Arnold and child.

Per *Choysang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Payne, Mrs. De Silva and family, and Miss Underwood.

Per *Formosa*, from Yokohama, for Singapore, Mrs. Murray Robertson; from Shanghai, for London, Mr. W. T. Bidwell.

Per *Yamaguchi Maru*, from Bombay, Mr. H. P. Bose.

DEPARTED.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Messrs. Allan Strachan, John La Monte Werts and A. Alex. B. Schnurkes.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Hongkong, for Manila, &c., Col. and Mrs. J. McE. Hyde, Consul and Mrs. Fulford, Mrs. E. M. Elliot, Mrs. Kertson and daughter, Mrs. K. Gato, Mrs. W. A. Weaver, Mrs. and Master Bullard, Dr. J. J. Kinyoun, Messrs. W. N. Richardson, A. Johnson, J. McMullan, F. L. Hemming, E. L. Young, T. Ichikawa, G. Grodziski, A. S. Stevens, Max. R. Welch, B. G. Skedmore, C. Laverston, F. A. Vickery, C. Miller, I. Nishikawa, H. Hannelhock, M. Farinas, R. Lagodo and N. Igorashi.

Per *Inaba Maru*, from Hongkong, for Kobe, &c. Mr. and Mrs. Rabbl, Mrs. Leroy, Miss C. Reyes, Miss M. Mackdia, Capt. W. F. Blanaeld, Messrs. R. Ponsonby, J. Palmer, R. Palmer, K. Gohara, M. Funakashi, R. Nakaseko, Imaizumi, Ichijio and McDowall.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. O. Thoresen; for Penang, Capt. G. W. Johnson, Messrs. G. F. Montgomery and J. Houston; for Calcutta, Capt. Nightingale and son; for Bombay, Mr. T. G. Wilson and son; for Brindisi, Mr. M. E. Sevastopulo; for Marseilles, Mr. A. B. Paterson; for London, Mrs. C. Morgan, Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Broomhall and two children, Miss Davies and Masters W. and H. Bagnatt; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Wiggins; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. C. Bell, K. Stevens, Howitz, Johdo and Kohno; for Bombay, Messrs. B. C. Postwalla, M. P. Talati and P. Brown; for London, Rear-Admiral Hon. Curzon Howe, Lieuts. Hazell and Litchfield, Qr.-Mr. Sergt. Heath, Driver and Mrs. Chesters and four children, Major Kettlewell, 2nd class P. O. Num, 2nd class Signalman Jackson, Pte. Yeats, Mr. and Mrs. Vandam and Mr. Shelton Hooper.

Per *Perla*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Whitney, Messrs. C. H. Knight, W. Vanderlip, C. B. Burt, G. D. Willey, H. H. Reynolds and J. Gaspar.

Per *Gaelic*, for Shanghai, Mrs. F. J. Drake, Mrs. V. A. Caesar Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mickie, Jr., Miss Jackson, Lieut. W. E. Sims, U.S.A., Messrs. C. J. Scott, E. Dannenberg, W. Inman, A. J. M. Gomez and Alfred G. Crilly; for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. F. Playfair and Miss Playfair, Messrs. L. C. Bramkamp, W. A. Belden, Osakawa and F. Kawamoto; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Dietrick, Masters David Dietrick and C. Dietrick, Miss M. L. Bacon, Messrs. C. Kalkhof and Y. Furukashi; for Yokohama, Mrs. C. Knight, Messrs. V. H. Deacon and D. E. Brown; for San Francisco, Capt. Sorbier, Messrs. Ferguson and Andrew Gibson; for Portland, Mr. C. H. Hand; for London, Messrs. A. G. Wood and Frank H. Dixon.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Miss E. Harrison, Messrs. F. Beckerle, E. S. Hardoon, S. R. Michael and M. Hopp; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Dann; for Yokohama, Mr. W. O. Spalckhaver.

Per *Preussen*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Dr. J. A. Magimi, Messrs. C. A. Maggin, Wood, W. Kidd and H. St. Dalmas; for Colombo, Rev. and Mrs. Wheeler Bogges, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hermann, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lam, Messrs. C. W. Richards and C. Kaliandas; for Naples, Mr. and Mrs. Long; for Genoa, Miss F. H. Muller; for Southampton, Mr. H. C. Jones; for Bremen, Mr. J. Olsson; for London, Messrs. C. D. Clark, F. W. Bark and E. Thomas.

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